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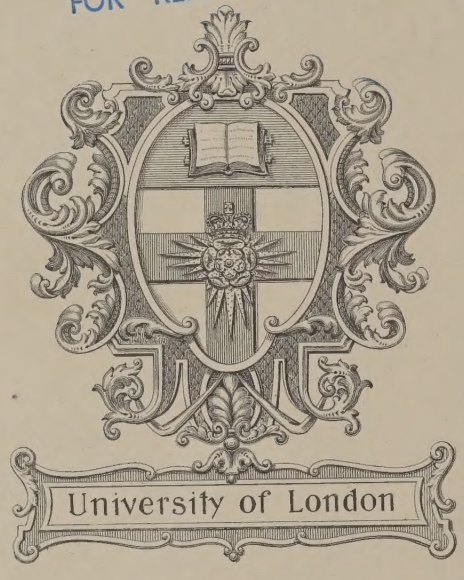

REPORTS

FROM

COMMITTEES:

TWELVE VOLUMES.

—(11.)—

POOR REMOVAL.

Session

31 *January* —— 12 *August* 1854.

VOL. XVII.

1854.

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1854.

TWELVE VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

ELEVENTH VOLUME.

N. B.—*THE* Figures *at the* beginning of the line, *correspond with the* N° *at the foot of each* Report; *and the* Figures *at the* end of the line, *refer to the* MS. Paging *of the Volumes arranged for The House of Commons.*

POOR REMOVAL:

396. REPORT from the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the Operation of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., c. 117, relating to the Removal from *England* of chargeable Poor Persons born in *Scotland*, *Ireland*, the *Isles of Man*, *Scilly*, *Jersey*, and *Guernsey*; and also into the Operation of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, relating to the Removal from *Scotland* of chargeable Poor Persons born in *England*; together with the PROCEEDINGS of the COMMITTEE, MINUTES of EVIDENCE, APPENDIX, and INDEX - - - - - - - - p. 1

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REPORT

FROM THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

POOR REMOVAL;

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

APPENDIX, AND INDEX.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
21 *July* 1854.

Jovis, 27° die Aprilis, 1854.

Ordered, THAT a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the Operation of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., c. 117, relating to the Removal from *England* of Chargeable Poor Persons born in *Scotland, Ireland,* the Isles of *Man, Scilly, Jersey,* or *Guernsey*; and also into the Operation of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, relating to the Removal from *Scotland* of Chargeable Poor Persons born in *England, Ireland,* or the *Isle of Man.*

Jovis, 4° die Maii, 1854.

Committee appointed:

Mr. Baines.
Sir George Grey.
Sir John Trollope.
Sir Benjamin Hall.
Mr. Liddell.
Mr. Dunlop.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.
Colonel Blair.
Colonel Mure.
Mr. Cumming Bruce.
Sir John Young.
Mr. George Alexander Hamilton.
Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Maguire.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have power to send for Persons, Papers, and Records.

Ordered, THAT Five be the Quorum of the Committee.

Veneris, 12° die Maii, 1854.

Ordered, THAT the further Return presented, of Copies of Correspondence (ordered 23d February), be referred to the Committee.

Veneris, 2° die Junii, 1854.

Ordered, THAT Mr. *Cumming Bruce* be discharged from further attendance on the Committee, and that Mr. *Stirling* be added thereto.

Jovis, 15° die Junii, 1854.

Ordered, THAT Colonel *Mure* be discharged from further attendance on the Committee, and that Mr. *Archibald Hastie* be added thereto.

Veneris, 23° die Junii, 1854.

Ordered, THAT Sir *John Trollope* be discharged from further attendance on the Committee, and that Sir *John Pakington* and Mr. *Ingham* be added thereto.

Veneris, 21° die Julii, 1854.

Ordered, THAT the Committee have Power to Report their Observations, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before them, to The House.

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REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to inquire into the operation of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., c. 117, relating to the REMOVAL FROM ENGLAND OF CHARGEABLE POOR PERSONS born in *Scotland*, *Ireland*, the *Isles of Man*, *Scilly*, *Jersey*, or *Guernsey*; and also into the Operation of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, relating to the REMOVAL FROM SCOTLAND OF CHARGEABLE POOR PERSONS born in *England*, *Ireland*, or the *Isle of Man*; and who were empowered to report their Observations, together with the Minutes of Evidence taken before them, to The House;——HAVE considered the Matters to them referred, and have agreed to the following REPORT:

YOUR Committee have examined witnesses, from whom they have received much important information; but at the same time they consider the inquiry so far from complete, that having regard to the advanced period of the Session, they have agreed simply to report the Evidence taken up to the present time, and to recommend to The House that the inquiry may be resumed early in the next Session of Parliament.

21 *July* 1854.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Lunæ, 8° *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Committee met.

Mr. Liddell.	Sir George Grey.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Colonel Mure.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Mr. Dunlop.
Mr. Maguire.	Mr. J. Ball.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Sir J. Young.
Mr. Baines.	Colonel Blair.

Mr. *Baines* was called to the Chair.

Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned to Thursday, at Twelve o'clock.

Jovis, 11 *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Mr. Dunlop.
Sir J. Young.	Sir George Grey.
Mr. Maguire.	Mr. Liddell.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Sir Benjamin Hall.
Mr. J. Ball.	Colonel Mure.

Mr. *W. G. Lumley* examined.

[Adjourned to Monday, at Half-past Twelve o'clock.

Lunæ, 15° *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Sir John Young.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. Alexander Hastie.
Mr. John Ball.	Colonel Mure.
Mr. Cumming Bruce.	Sir J. Trollope.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Colonel Blair.
Sir George Grey.	Mr. Dunlop.

Alfred Power, Esq., examined.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Jovis, 18 *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Baines, in the Chair.

Sir George Grey.	Mr. Maguire.
Sir John Trollope.	Sir John Young.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Sir Benjamin Hall.
Mr. John Ball.	Mr. Alexander Hastie.
Mr. Liddell.	Colonel Blair.
Mr. Cumming Bruce.	Mr. Dunlop.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	

Mr. *Alfred Power* further examined.

Mr. *R. G. O'Shaughnessy* and *R. L. Jameson* examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Lunæ, 22$_{o}$ *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Baines, in the Chair.

Sir J. Young.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Liddell.	Sir Benjamin Hall.
Sir George Grey.	Mr. Dunlop.
Mr. J. Ball.	Colonel Mure.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Sir John Trollope.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Mr. Cumming Bruce.

Mr. *John Duross*, Mr. *George Hayward Lindsay*, and Mr. *Ralph Cusack*, examined.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Jovis, 25° *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Baines, in the Chair.

Sir George Grey.	Mr. Dunlop.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Mr. J. Ball.
Mr. Maguire.	Mr. Liddell.
Colonel Blair.	Sir Benjamin Hall.
Sir J. Trollope.	Colonel Mure.
Sir J. Young.	Sir Robert Ferguson.

Mr. *Ralph Cusack* and Mr. *Charles Crawford* examined.

Mr. *O'Shaughnessy* further examined.

Mr. *Flood* examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Lunæ, 29° *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Colonel Mure.
Sir John Trollope.	Colonel Blair.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Sir Benjamin Hall.
Mr. Maguire.	Mr. J. Ball.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. Cumming Bruce.
Sir J. Young.	Sir George Grey.

The Lord *Donoughmore*, Mr. *J. Barrington*, and Mr. *J. H. Devereux*, examined.

[Adjourned to Thursday, 1st June, at Twelve o'clock.

Jovis, 1° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Sir G. Grey.	Mr. Maguire.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Sir J. Young.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Sir B. Hall.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. J. Ball.

Dr. *M'Gee* examined.

[Adjourned to Monday, 12th June, at Half-past Twelve o'clock.

Lunæ, 12° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Mr. Liddell.	Mr. Maguire.
Sir R. Ferguson.	Mr. J. Ball.
Colonel Blair.	Sir J. Young.
Sir John Trollope.	Mr. Stirling.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Colonel Mure.	

Sir *John Macneill* examined.

[Adjourned to Friday, at Half-past Twelve o'clock.

Veneris, 16° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Sir R. Ferguson.	Mr. Stirling.
Mr. Maguire.	Mr. J. Ball.
Colonel Blair.	Sir J. Young.
Mr. Archibald Hastie.	Sir B. Hall.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Dunlop.
Mr. Liddell.	

Mr. *Flood*, Mr. *James Campbell*, and Mr. *William Smythe* examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Half-past Twelve o'clock.

Lunæ, 19° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Sir R. Ferguson.	Mr. Liddell.
Mr. Maguire.	Sir J. Young.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Stirling.
Mr. Archibald Hastie.	Mr. G. A Hamilton.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. J. Ball.
Mr. Dunlop.	

Mr. *James Frazer Gordon* examined.

[Adjourned to Thursday, at One o'clock.

Jovis, 22° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Sir R. Ferguson.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Sir J. Young.
Mr. Archibald Hastie.	Mr. J. Ball.
Mr. Dunlop	Mr. Stirling.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.

Mr. *William Walker* and Mr. *E. Adamson* examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Lunæ, 26° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Mr. Maguire.
Sir R. Ferguson.	Sir J. Pakington.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. J. Ball.
Mr. Ingham.	Mr. Stirling.
Mr. Dunlop.	Sir B. Hall.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Mr. Liddell.	

Mr. *Ebenezer Adamson* and Sir *J. Macneill* examined.

Motion made, and Question, "That the correspondence referred to this Committee, of Board of Guardians in Ireland with the Poor Law Board, be abstracted for the use of the Committee" (Sir *Robert Ferguson*), put, and agreed to.

In pursuance of the resolution of the Committee of this day, that the correspondence of Boards of Guardians in Ireland with the Poor Law Board, referred to the Committee, be abstracted for the use of the Committee, "Resolved, that Mr. Hansard be directed to have the same prepared in abstract, and that he be authorised to charge in his printing account the expense incurred in making such abstract."

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Jovis, 29° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Mr. Liddell.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Archibald Hastie.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Mr. Ingham.	Mr. Stirling.
Mr. Dunlop.	Colonel Blair.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. John Ball.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Sir J. Pakington.

Rev. *Augustus Campbell* examined.

[Adjourned to Monday, at Twelve o'clock.

Lunæ, 3° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Sir Robert Ferguson.	Sir J. Pakington.
Mr. Maguire.	Mr. J. Ball.
Mr. Archibald Hastie.	Mr. Dunlop.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Alexander Hastie.
Sir J. Young.	Mr. Liddell.

Mr. *John Evans* and Mr. *George Carr* examined.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Jovis, 6 *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Sir R. Ferguson.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. J. Ball.	Mr. Liddell.
Mr. Ingham.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Mr. Dunlop.	Colonel Blair.

Mr. *William Cleaver* and Mr. *M. M'Nerney* examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next.

Lunæ, 10° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. BAINES, in the Chair.

Sir Robert Ferguson.	Mr. Ingham.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Dunlop.	Sir J. Pakington.
Mr. Liddell.	Sir J. Young.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.

Mr. *J. Harrop*, Mr. *C. H. Rickards*, and Mr. *Thomas Pashley* examined.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Jovis, 13° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Baines, in the Chair.

Mr. Liddell.	Colonel Blair.
Mr. John Ball.	Mr. Dunlop.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Mr. Archibald Hastie.	

Mr. *Evan David* and Mr. *James Salter* examined.

[Adjourned to Monday next, at Half-past Twelve o'clock.

Lunæ, 17° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Baines, in the Chair.

Sir John Young.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Mr. Dunlop.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Colonel Blair.

Mr. *William Chambers* examined.

Committee deliberated.

Motion made, and Question, "That at the next meeting of the Committee the Evidence be reported to The House, with a recommendation that the inquiry should be resumed as early as possible next Session" (Mr. *Liddell*), put, and agreed to.

Mr. *Richard Thomas Tubbs* and Mr. *Charles Hibbert* examined.

[Adjourned to Friday next, at Twelve o'clock.

Veneris, 21° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Baines, in the Chair.

Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Mr. Ingham.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	Mr. Stirling.
Mr. John Ball.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Mr. Alexander Hastie.
Mr. Maguire.	

Mr. *Dore*, Mr. *G. A. Hamilton*, a Member of the Committee, Mr. *William Cornwell*, Mr. *William Hicks*, Mr. *Valentine Thomas Coombes*, and Mr. *James Rankley*, examined.

Committee deliberated.

Draft Report, proposed by the Chairman, read 1°, 2°, and agreed to.

Question, "That this Report, together with the Minutes of Evidence, be the Report to The House," put, and agreed.

Ordered, To Report.

EXPENSES OF WITNESSES.

NAME of WITNESS.	PROFESSION or CONDITION.	From whence Summoned.	Number of Days absent from Home, under Orders of Committee.	Expenses of Journey to London and back.	Allowance during absence from Home.	Total Expenses allowed to Witness.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Alfred Power	Chief Commissioner of Poor Law in Ireland.	Dublin	7	7 – –	7 7 –	14 7 –
John Duross	Constable	Cork	6	3 – –	4 10 –	7 10 –
R. L. Jameson	Poor Law Guardian	Cork	5	6 – –	5 5 –	11 5 –
Geo. Lindsay	Chairman of Poor Law	Dublin	5	7 – –	5 5 –	12 5 –
Ralph Cusack	Barrister	Dublin	8	7 – –	25 4 –	32 4 –
Charles Crawford	Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, Dublin.	Dublin	8	7 – –	8 8 –	15 8 –
Robert J. O'Shaunessy	Clerk to Poor Law Board	Cork	15	10 – –	15 15 – Payment of his Deputy whilst absent 6 6 –	32 1 –
J. Barrington	Solicitor	Limerick	7	10 – –	15 15 –	25 15 –
J. H. Devereux	Magistrate	Waterford	8	11 – –	8 8 –	19 8 –
William M'Gee	M.D.	Belfast	5	6 10 –	15 15 –	22 5 –
Sir John MacNeil	Chief Commissioner	Edinburgh	5	9 – –	5 5 –	14 5 –
Henry Watson	Mayor of Limerick	Limerick	7	10 – –	7 7 –	17 7 –
James Campbell	Esquire	Ayr	4	9 – –	4 4 –	13 4 –
William Smythe	Esquire	Perth	4	9 – –	4 4 –	13 4 –
James Fraser Gordon	Writer to the Signet	Edinburgh	4	7 – –	8 8 –	15 8 –
William Walker	Secretary to Board of Supervision.	Edinburgh	3	8 – –	3 3 –	11 3 –
Ebenezer Adamson	– – – – – –	Glasgow	7	8 5 –	7 7 –	15 12 –
Sir J. MacNeil	– – – – – –	Edinburgh	4	8 10 –	4 4 –	12 14 –
Rev. Augustus Campbell	Rector	Liverpool	3	4 10 –	3 3 –	7 13 –
John Evans	Overseer	Liverpool	7	4 – –	5 5 –	9 5 –
George Carr	Master of Workhouse	Liverpool	7	4 – –	5 5 –	9 5 –
William Cleaver	Clerk to Derby Union	Liverpool	– –	4 10 – Substitute –	3 3 – 6 2 10	13 15 10
M. M'Nerney	Relieving Officer	Birkenhead	3	3 5 –	2 5 –	5 10 –
J. Harrop	Clerk, Board of Guardians	Manchester	3	4 – –	3 3 –	7 3 –
C. H. Rickards	Vice Chairman, Board of Guardians.	Manchester	3	4 – –	3 3 –	7 3 –
Evan David	Land Surveyor	Cardiff	3	3 10 –	6 6 –	9 16 –
James Salter	Relieving Officer	Newport	3	2 10 –	3 3 –	5 13 –
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Jovis, 11° *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Sir John Young.
Sir George Grey.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Maguire.
Colonel Mure.	

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

William Golden Lumley, Esq., called in; and Examined.

W. G. Lumley, Esq.

11 May 1854.

1. *Chairman.*] WHAT office do you hold in the Poor-law Board of this country?—I am the Senior Assistant Secretary of the Poor-law Board.

2. I believe you are a barrister?—I am.

3. And the author of several works on subjects connected with the Poor Laws?—I am.

4. Have you prepared yourself to give the Committee a short historical detail of the statutes specially relating to the removal of Scotch, Irish, or other paupers from England?—Yes. I have been looking up the subject, and have obtained such information as I think will put the Committee in possession of them.

5. What is the first statute relating to that subject?—The first statute which I find that has any relation to the removal of poor persons from England to Ireland or Scotland is the 13 Anne, c. 26; it is the Vagrant Act which was passed in that year, and which revised the various provisions in the previous vagrant laws, consolidated them, made provisions for the removal of persons guilty of acts of vagrancy to the parishes of their settlement, and also for their punishment. Having defined the different classes of rogues and vagabonds, and vagrants, it provided for their punishment, and after the punishment, for their being passed from different parts of England to the places of their birth or the places of their settlement; it is, in fact, the foundation of the subsequent Vagrant Acts. Having provided for the passing of vagrants or convicted vagabonds to their parishes of settlement and places of birth, it contains two provisions which relate more especially to the subject of this Committee. The first provision is in the 24th clause, and applies to the masters of ships; it renders them subject to penalties if they "bring into this realm from Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Isles of Jersey, Guernsey, or Scilly, or any of the foreign plantations, any rogue, vagabond, or beggar, or any person or persons likely to live by begging, being a native of any of the said islands or plantations." It then provided that if "the person or persons so brought over shall be apprehended wandering and begging, or otherwise misordering him or herself as aforesaid," the master shall

W. G. Lumley, Esq.

11 May 1854.

be subject to a penalty, and also bound to pay the expenses of the removal of such persons back to their country.

6. Is that statute subsequently repealed?—That is repealed.

7. By what?—By the 13th Geo. 2, c. 24. Besides that provision which affects the masters and owners of ships, there is also a further provision in the same statute (13 Anne, c. 26, s. 26) which, adverting to the removal by passes of these vagabonds, recites that, "Whereas divers vagrants have been conveyed from county to county in order to be sent to places in Ireland, the Isles of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, or Scilly (their last legal settlement), but for want of authority to compel masters of ships and vessels to take them on board thither at reasonable rates, they have been very chargeable to several parishes, towns, and places in England and Wales, where they have lain for such exportation;" and then it provides, "That all and every master and masters of ships and vessels bound for Ireland, the Isles of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, or Scilly, shall and they and each of them is and are hereby required, upon warrant," directed to them by a justice of the peace, to remove the persons put on board to the place to which the vessel shall be bound, upon being paid such remuneration as the justices shall settle. Those are the two provisions which are found in the 13th of Queen Anne. That statute, as I have mentioned before, was repealed by the 13th of George the Second.

8. Is that a simple repeal?—No, it is stated to be for the amendment and re-consolidation of the previous statutes; the exact provisions of the Act I have not been able to refer to, because the statute is not printed at length in the common octavo edition. That statute was afterwards repealed, and the substance was re-enacted in 17 Geo. 2, c. 5, which became the principal Vagrant Act down to the reign of George the Fourth. In that statute of the 17th of George the Second, the provision which I have mentioned respecting the liability of the masters of ships to penalties for bringing persons into this country was omitted. It was a clause which at that time had become rather onerous, and, of course, very objectionable. That clause was dropped, but the other clause was re-enacted with a very slight alteration; probably it is hardly necessary to advert further to the former. The statute of George the Second remained in force until the 3d of George the Fourth, when it was repealed. Temporary provisions were made for vagrancy in the 3d of George the Fourth, c. 40, which, however, were again repealed by 5 Geo. 4, c. 83, the Vagrant Act now in force.

9. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Mr. Coode quotes the 17 Geo. 2, c. 37, which is a different statute from that to which you have referred, stating that it is the first statute which makes a complete or effective provision for conveying natives of Scotland, Ireland, and the Isles to their homes?—The 17 Geo. 2, c. 5; it is the same statute, undoubtedly.

10. In that statute there are the words, "Whereas divers vagrants have been conveyed from county to county in order to be sent to places in Ireland, the Isles of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, or Scilly (their last legal settlement), but for want of authority to compel masters of ships and vessels to take them on board, in order to be carried thither at reasonable rates, they may be very chargeable to the maritime counties, towns, and places in England and Wales, where they may lie for such exportation"?—Yes; that is the recital, in the clause to which I am referring, of the 17th of George the Second, c. 5.

11. Is the section 14?—I have an old Act which was printed at that time, without either the chapter or the section, but I have taken it down as being chapter five. That is the provision which is in the statute of George the Second. Perhaps it might be as well to mention that in the statute of George the Second there is another provision with regard to the removal of persons to Scotland. The system which is introduced into these statutes is simply that of passing vagrants from one county to another till they come to the place of their settlement or of their birth. There is a provision here which precedes the one relative to the Irish paupers, and applies to Scotland. It provides that when a constable has brought the vagrants into the counties of Cumberland, Northumberland, Durham, or the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, he is required to pass them on to the persons who have authority in Scotland. In truth, the enactment does very little more than render the authorities in Scotland liable to take the paupers, and pass them therein to the places of their settlement. It only in fact gives to the authorities in Scotland the same power which this Act of Parliament has

has already given to the authorities in England. It is not a very material provision with regard to the Scotchmen, because it is nothing more than enabling the vagrants who are removed from England to Scotland to be passed into Scotland. In the 3d of George the Fourth the provisions about passes were, I believe, altogether abolished. They certainly did not appear in the statute of the 5th of George the Fourth; there are no provisions there about passing the vagrants, they are merely to be punished according to the terms of that statute; but there is a saving in the last clause of that statute of the provisions which had been made with regard to the removal of Scotch and Irish paupers.

12. *Chairman.*] From the 17th of George the Second to the 5th of George the Fourth, the 17th of George the Second was the Vagrant Act of this country, was it not?—It was.

13. Before the 5th of George the Fourth the 59th of George the Third was passed, which I believe contains some provisions upon the subject?—Yes. Up to the 59th of George the Third the only provisions applicable apparently to the Scotch or Irish, or the Manxsmen or the Channel Islanders, treated them entirely as vagrants; and those provisions only came into operation when the parties had committed acts of vagrancy punishable under those statutes; therefore, if an Irishman or a Scotchman, though destitute, and requiring relief, had not committed an act of vagrancy, up to the 59th of George the Third, there was no means of removing such person to any other place than the parish of his settlement, if he had acquired a settlement in England; but the 59th of George the Third was the first of the statutes which have been since passed dealing with Irish and Scotch poor persons as chargeable poor, and giving the power of removal of them in that character.

14. Mr. *Maguire.*] In what position was an Irishman who applied for relief before the 59th of George the Third?—When he applied for relief, he was in the situation of every other destitute person in England, excepting that, if he had not actually acquired a settlement in England, he was not removable to any other parish from that in which he was then receiving relief.

15. *Chairman.*] Would he not be exactly like a foreigner; any destitute Frenchman or Spaniard?—He would.

16. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was he chargeable in the first parish where he applied for relief?—Yes; and if he made his application in such form and under such circumstances as not to amount to an act of vagrancy, he was not removable. Apparently that state of the law led to the alteration which was made by the 59 Geo. 3, c. 12, commonly called Sturges Bourne's Act, sections 33 and 34. The 33d section begins by reciting that "poor persons born in Scotland and Ireland, and in the Isles of Man, Jersey, and Guernsey, frequently become chargeable to parishes in England, and no provision is made for the removal of any such poor person unless he or she shall have committed some act of vagrancy, and shall be adjudged to be a rogue and vagabond." And then it goes on to state that "no person so adjudged can be lawfully removed" (this is the provision under the Vagrant Act) "without having been first publicly whipped or imprisoned in the House of Correction." It then proceeds to recite, that "it is expedient to authorise the removal of such poor persons, although they may not have committed any act of vagrancy, and to authorise justices of the peace to cause such of them as may be adjudged to be rogues and vagabonds to be conveyed by a pass without having been first whipped or imprisoned."

17. Was begging in the streets considered an act of vagrancy?—Begging would be an act of vagrancy, undoubtedly.

18. Mr. *Liddell.*] And then a man would be liable to be scourged?—Under the 17th of George the 2d, a person was liable to be whipped and imprisoned. The imprisonment still remains, the whipping is abolished. That clause therefore proceeded to authorise and require two justices of the peace, upon complaint of the parish officers, to examine the person, to ascertain whether the person had gained a settlement in England (because if he had gained a settlement in England, the proper course was to remove such person by an order of removal to the parish of his settlement); and if it were found that he had not gained any settlement in England, then the party was to be removed to the place of the birth, either in Scotland, Ireland, or the Channel Islands.

19. Mr. *Maguire.*] What Act is that?—The 59 Geo. 3, c. 12, c. 33.

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20. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Does the Act provide that the removal shall be to the place of birth?—Not exactly.

21. *Chairman.*] Will you read the words?—"And if it shall be found by such justices that the person so brought before them was born in Scotland or Ireland, or in either of the Isles of Man, Jersey, and Guernsey, and hath not gained any settlement in England, and that he or she hath actually become chargeable to the complaining parish by himself or herself, or his or her family, then such justices shall and they are hereby empowered, by a pass under their hands and seals, in the form or to the effect prescribed by the Act passed in the 17th year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Second, to amend the laws relating to rogues and vagabonds (*mutatis mutandis*), to cause such poor person, his wife, and such of his or her children so chargeable as shall not have gained a settlement in England, to be removed to the place of his or her birth or last legal settlement, in the manner by the said Act directed for the removal of rogues and vagabonds to Scotland and Ireland, and the Isles of Man, Jersey, and Guernsey; and all constables and other officers and all masters of vessels are hereby required to convey every person so to be passed in the manner by the said Act directed for the conveyance of rogues and vagabonds." Now, although the words there stated are, that the party is to be removed to the place of his or her birth, all that can be made out is that it merely means to the country, because there was no mode by which a person could be removed, in fact, to the actual locality in which such person had been born, either in Scotland or in Ireland. The only provision, as far as Ireland at all events was concerned, was that the person should be put on board a vessel, and the master of the ship should be compelled to take the person to the port in Ireland whither the ship was going; but there was no provision, if the party was born in the interior of Ireland, to compel any authority in Ireland, or the master of the ship, or anybody else, to convey the person further than to the coast. In Scotland it was a little different, because probably the 17th of George the Second would have required the authorities in Scotland to pass the party on to the place of the birth.

22. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is that the case?—I admit it is not very clear what they were to do there.

23. Will you be good enough to read the words in the 17th of George the Second, relating to the removal of Scotch persons into Scotland?—I will. It is not a very easy enactment to understand. The clause in the 17th of George the Second, which relates to the Scotch, sect. 13, I will read at length: "And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the constable or other officer of any parish or place within the counties of Cumberland, Northumberland, Durham, or town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, shall, and they are hereby authorised and required, upon any person or persons being delivered to them by a pass and examination, who shall have been apprehended within the said counties or town, or brought to them according to the direction of this Act, whose place of legal settlement is in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, to deliver the said examination to the clerk of the peace for such respective county, to be kept among the records of the sessions of that county, and to convey or cause to be conveyed such person or persons with the said pass into the next adjoining shire, stewartry, or place in that part of the United Kingdom, and to deliver him, her, or them to some constable or other officer of the next parish, district, or place within the said shire, stewartry or place, taking his receipt for him, her or them; and such officer is hereby required to receive such person or persons, and give such receipt, *and to dispose of him, her, or them according to law.*"

24. Therefore, was not the duty of the English officer completed by delivering the pauper, or the vagrant as he was then, to the officer of the nearest adjoining county, across the border in Scotland?—It was so. Then, it followed that the authority in Scotland was bound by some legal obligation (upon that I cannot speak confidently, because it depends upon what the Scotch law was); but the authority in Scotland was probably bound to send the party forward to the parish of his settlement in Scotland.

25. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] That law, as regards Scotland, is perfect; as regards Ireland, it is incomplete?—I think it will not appear to be quite so now, because the provisions which have subsequently passed have somewhat altered the state of things.

26. Perfect as regards carrying out the object of the law at that time, namely, providing that a person being chargeable in England should be conveyed to his place

place of birth in Scotland?—He was to be conveyed, according to the language of the 59th of George the Third, to the place of his birth. When we seek to ascertain how that is to be done, we find that an order is to be made passing him to Scotland. Then he is to be passed from constable to constable, and from county to county, in England, until he comes to the northern counties; when he comes to the northern counties, he is to be delivered to the officer of the nearest Scotch county, and there he is to be dealt with and disposed of according to law. If the Scotch law really requires that person to be removed to the parish of settlement, or the place of birth, which is treated as the parish of settlement in Scotland, no doubt the law is perfect.

27. Sir *G. Grey.*] But are you aware whether at that time birth constituted a legal settlement in Scotland?—Birth, I understand, by the Scotch law always constituted a legal settlement in Scotland, unless it had been altered by residential settlement, which could be obtained in Scotland, I believe, by the Scotch law, by a residence of three years. I believe that that would have constituted a settlement in the Scotch law before the late Act of Parliament.

28. But would it not be the duty of the Scotch officer, and not of the English removing officer, to ascertain that place of settlement?—Certainly. The English authorities could have no means of knowing the settlement of a Scotch pauper.

29. In fact, the receipt given by the Scotch officer for the pauper, or the vagrant, was a complete discharge to the English officer?—That would undoubtedly appear to be the case.

30. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Then, as I understand you, the law as regards paupers removed to Scotland secured, at all events, that the pauper so removed should obtain in Scotland relief in the place where he was properly chargeable?—Yes, I think that would have followed. He would have been delivered to the proper authority, and whatever the law was, he was to be dealt with according to that law; and we know that a person in Scotland, in an absolute state of destitution, was relievable in some way or other.

31. Mr. *Dunlop.*] There was nothing requiring the officer to give relief; he was to be dealt with according to law?—Whatever the law in Scotland was, he was to be dealt with according to the Scotch law.

32. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Of course you are aware that at that period there was no law of settlement, or for the relief of the poor in Ireland?—Certainly there was not.

33. And consequently no means of conveying a pauper landed in Ireland to the place of his birth?—Certainly.

34. The law, therefore, as regards Ireland was incomplete in carrying out its own object?—It was at that time; that was my meaning. When I said that the party was not to be removed to the place of his birth, I merely meant that at that time there was no means of carrying out the provision, excepting the party had happened to be born on the coast.

35. Sir *G. Grey.*] In the clause of the 59th of George the Third, do you think that the place of birth means more than the country of birth; look at the facts into which the magistrates were to examine; were they to examine into the place where the pauper was born, or merely the country in which he was born?—I think the understanding has always been that the 59th of George the Third only meant by place of birth the country of birth.

36. Was there any power to a magistrate to carry his examination further than to ascertain in which of those countries the pauper was born?—The provisions which have been subsequently made are not very perfect upon that point, and even those are wanting in the 59th of George the Third.

37. *Chairman.*] Is it not as Sir George Grey puts it, the words being, "And if it shall be found by such justices that the person so brought before them was born in Scotland or Ireland," then upon proof of that they shall cause him to be removed?—Yes, they were to have some proof.

38. Birth anywhere in Scotland or Ireland would have satisfied that, would it not?—Yes.

39. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is there any place mentioned in that Act beyond the country of birth?—None whatever; there is no reference to the parish or county; there is no reference to anything else than the country.

40. Mr. *Maguire.*] At that time the master of the vessel was not obliged to take the pauper to any particular port; I think you said to any port to which

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he was going?—There was no obligation upon the master of the vessel to take the person to any particular port.

41. He might bring a southern pauper to the extreme north of Ireland and land him there, might he not, if he was going there?—Certainly; it is a long clause, but I will read the whole of that clause, as it appears in the 17th of George the Second.

42. Sir *G. Grey.*] At the time of the 59th of George the Third, was there any Act in force making it obligatory upon the masters of vessels to take these paupers?—Yes, the 17th of George the Second was still in force. I may probably read that clause (sect. 14): "And whereas divers vagrants have been conveyed from county to county, in order to be sent to places in Ireland, the Isles of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, or Scilly (their last legal settlement); but for want of authority to compel masters of ships and vessels to take them on board in order to be carried thither at reasonable rates, they may be very chargeable to the maritime counties, towns, and places in England and Wales where they may lie for such exportation; be it therefore enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that all and every master and masters of any ship, vessel, or packet-boat bound for Ireland, the Isles of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, or Scilly, shall and they and each of them is and are hereby required, upon warrant to him or them directed under the hand and seal of a justice of the peace of the county, town, or place where such ship, vessel, or packet-boat shall lie, to take on board the same such vagrant and vagrants as shall be named and expressed in the said warrant, and convey him, her, or them to such place in Ireland, the Isles of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, or Scilly as such ship, vessel, or packet-boat shall be bound to, or shall arrive at." So that undoubtedly it was possible for an Irishman whose place of birth was in Dublin to be taken to Cork, or to be taken to Londonderry.

43. Mr. *Maguire.*] At that time there was no poor-law in Ireland?—There was not.

44. There was no machinery by which relief could be given?—None whatever.

45. Nor, of course, for transmission from one place to the other?—Certainly not.

46. What is the date of the origin of the poor-law in Scotland, of the first Act?—There is, I believe, a relief of the poor in Scotland, by the common law of Scotland.

47. How long has it been in operation?—There has always been some species of poor-law in Scotland, as far as my acquaintance with the Scotch laws goes, although it is materially different from that in England. I believe that by the common law of Scotland certain classes of persons could always be relieved; but there was a difficulty about levying a poor rate in Scotland, and practically, probably, it is not easy to say whether there was any effective provision for the relief of the poor.

48. Was there the power of levying a rate at the time you speak of, the 17th of George the Second?—I do not propose to give any opinion about the Scotch law.

49. Was not the Scotch poor-law in full operation at that time?—As far as I am acquainted with the Scotch poor-law, I have always understood that there was by the common law a poor-law in Scotland, but that it was not carried out in any way like the law which we have in this country; and I think it would be advisable that I should not give any answer upon that point. We know very well the state of the poor-law in Ireland, but it is certainly not a very easy matter for an English lawyer to say much about the Scotch poor-law.

50. Mr. *John Ball.*] Is there any special provision in Sturges Bourne's Act with respect to charging the expenses of removal?—No, it is left altogether vague, but I apprehend the result was this. This was a species of removal of vagrants, and the passes seem to have been made out to the constables; the constables removed, and therefore, in all probability, the constables charged the costs of the removal as they were required to do under the Vagrant Act, and so the charges of the removal fell upon the county rate.

51. Upon the county, and not upon the parish?—Yes; but as the applications were made to the justices by the parochial authorities, all the expenses that were incurred in procuring the passes were no doubt paid by the parochial authorities; those were the preliminary costs and expenses in procuring the passes.

52. In practice would that be anything more than a mere fee upon obtaining the pass for removal?—It probably would not be much.

53. The bulk of the expenditure, therefore, probably fell upon the county?—It did so.

54. *Chairman.*] The next statute, I think, in point of time, to the 59th of George the Third, was one which you have mentioned already, namely, the 5th of George the Fourth, which was the new Vagrant Act?—It was.

55. Does that contain any provisions relative to the subject?—The 5th of George the Fourth of course came into operation shortly after the 59th of George the Third, and when it repealed the 17th of George the Second, would, if it had remained there, have repealed all the provisions by which the Scotch and Irish paupers were removed; therefore there is an exception (sect. 22) that nothing in that Act of Parliament shall extend to alter the law for the removal of Scotch and Irish paupers.

56. Sir *G. Grey.*] Then do you mean that the 5th of George the Fourth left the 59th of George the Third, in conjunction with the 17th of George the Second, untouched, as it respects the removal of Irish and Scotch paupers?—It did so.

57. *Chairman.*] What is the next statute?—The next provision applies to Jersey and Guernsey, and that is 11 Geo. 4, c. 5.

58. Does it apply to Jersey and Guernsey exclusively?—It applies simply to the islands of Jersey and Guernsey; it repeals this clause of the 59th of George the Third, and enables two justices of the peace, upon complaint of the parish officers that a person born in either of the islands of Jersey or Guernsey has become chargeable to the parish, "to cause such person to be brought before them, and to examine such person and any other witness or witnesses, on oath, touching the place of the birth or last legal settlement of every such person;" and having ascertained that the party has no settlement in England, they are to remove the person to the place of his or her birth, which of course would be one of those islands.

59. What is the next statute?—The subject continued in that state until the statute which was introduced in 1833, and which made a very material alteration, the 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 40. That repealed so much as was then in force of the 17th of George the Second, which had been preserved by that clause to which I have referred. It also repealed the 59 Geo. 3, c. 12, respecting this subject, and also the 5 Geo. 4, c. 83, the Vagrant Act, which contained nothing more than the excepting clause, and it made a series of other regulations.

60. Did it not also include Manxmen and islanders of the Scilly Isles?—It took in all the persons born in Scotland and Ireland, but it did not touch the case of the persons born in Jersey and Guernsey. It was confined to Scotland, Ireland, and the Isles of Man and Scilly; and the provision was very much the same as that which had been in the first instance enacted in the 59th of George the Third. The provision was, that where any person born in one of those places had become chargeable to any parish in England without having gained a settlement, that person, if found to be born in either Scotland or Ireland, or the Isle of Man or Scilly, and not having gained a settlement in England, might be removed (*should be*, I should rather put it, because it was imperative upon the justices to make the order) to Scotland or Ireland, or the Isle of Man or Scilly, according as the party was born, *or should belong*, as it is termed, to Scotland, Ireland, the Isle of Man, or Scilly, at the charge and expense of the complaining parish; but the expense, although it was to be paid in the first instance by the parish, was expressly provided to be repaid out of the county rate.

61. So that it was made a burden upon the county rate?—Yes, it was.

62. Sir *G. Grey.*] But the paupers were no longer to be conveyed in the manner directed by the Vagrant Act, as rogues and vagabonds, as had been provided in the 59th of George the Third?—They are not, because it will be remembered that the original Vagrant Act contained a series of regulations creating passes and orders of vagrant removal, were abolished or discontinued in the 5th of George the Fourth. It therefore became necessary to have a new form of order of removal, and that form is set out in the statute, as well as the examination upon which that order was to be issued; that examination to be signed by the pauper, and stated in effect that he had been born out of England, in a particular country, and that he had not gained a settlement here.

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63. Will you state at whose expense a pauper is removed from a parish in England to another parish in England in which he has a settlement?—He is removed at the expense of the parish obtaining the order of removal.

64. The complaining parish?—The complaining parish, with the sole exception of the case where orders of removal are suspended; and some expenses in that case are thrown upon the parish to which the pauper is removed.

65. Then the removal of the Scotch and Irish paupers was placed in that respect by that Act upon the same footing, the complaining parish paying the expenses of removal?—Yes, but they were reimbursed out of the county rate. The first charge came upon the parish, but the reimbursement came out of the county rate.

66. *Chairman.*] Were those provisions of 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 40, temporary provisions?—They were so.

67. What was the next Act?—They were continued by two or three Acts of Parliament. I have given the date of that as being 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 40; it was to last for three years.

68. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was there any change made respecting the place to which the Irish pauper was to be sent?—Not in that Act; but it is right that I should mention that that Act contained a provision that the justices at quarter sessions were to make rules and regulations by which the provisions for removing paupers were to be carried into execution, and they did so of course in all the counties in England; they made regulations which provided for the removal.

69. Was it a matter of law or a matter of mere regulation, that the master should take the pauper to the place to which his vessel was bound, and at which it should arrive?—I should state that at the time the 3d & 4th of William the Fourth was passed, the statute of the 17th of George the Second had been repealed, and therefore there was no longer any provision existing which compelled the master of a ship to take any pauper to Ireland, as had been enacted under the previous statutes. Hence it was necessary for the justices to make provisions as to how the paupers were to be sent to Ireland, and that was a part of the regulations which they did make in different parts of the country.

70. *Chairman.*] It was a power delegated to them by the statute for making those regulations?—Yes.

71. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you happen to have any one of those orders upon record?—I was going to state with regard to those regulations, that when this Act of 3d & 4th William the Fourth was ultimately to be renewed permanently, the whole of the regulations which had been made under it were collected together, analysed and abstracted by the Poor-law Commissioners, and they will be found in their Sixth Annual Report, p. 183.

72. With regard to the removal of an Irish pauper from this country at the time of the passing of the 3 & 4 Will. 4, c. 40, what was the captain or master of a vessel obliged to do?—There was then no obligation upon the captain or master of a vessel at all, but the justices provided in various counties the mode in which the order was to be carried into effect, and how the parties were to be conveyed. The regulations were undoubtedly exceedingly various; some of the counties made very simple regulations with very little detail; others, where they had probably a good deal of this migration to take charge of, made regulations with very minute detail. I have here the provisions which were made in the county of Bedford, and which provided, with reference to the particular part of Ireland to which the paupers were to be sent.

73. What was the date of them?—"During the twelvemonths commencing on the second day of January 1834." One of the provisions with regard to the Irish paupers is this: the justices arrange that a Mr. Baker (his name is given) shall be the pass-master, the person who should receive the paupers. Then they say, "The Irish paupers, when delivered to Mr. Baker, shall be restrained on board his receiving ship, and on board the ships or vessels in which they shall be delivered by him, for removal to Ireland, until landed at Dublin, Cork, or Waterford, or such other part or place in Ireland as the state of the weather may render desirable." I do not understand that any of the regulations which were passed at that time were more minute in their detail than that they left it to the pass-master to make the best arrangement he could for conveying the paupers to different ports in Ireland.

74. He

74. He was allowed to do at that time what was most convenient to him?—Perhaps that is so. At the same time, as he was a contractor who had contracted with the justices and was bound under contract, he exercised, one may suppose, a reasonable discretion; but having probably a great number of Irish under orders of removal at the same time, of course it was quite impossible to take them all to the different places in Ireland whither they ought to have been carried, and they were taken to that part which was most convenient at the particular moment. In the Sixth Report of the Poor-law Commissioners, page 183, will be found a summary of the regulations.

75. Will you give one other order, not so elaborate as that?—At Lancaster there were a series of regulations, which are given; they provide nothing about any particular place to which the parties are to be sent. At Gloucester there is a provision by which paupers of course, as might be expected, are to be sent to Bristol. From Lancaster they are to go from Liverpool. Such were pretty nearly the regulations made at that time under the 3d & 4th William the Fourth; these regulations were made by the justices at the quarter session free from control; they made them entirely as they deemed advisable. The only further point to be adverted to in that statute was as to the expenses, and it provided that all parishes were to be reimbursed their expenses from the county rate, except where the parishes were in the city of London; and there being no county rate there, they were to be paid by the corporation. That Act of Parliament was enacted for three years. It was re-enacted by 7 Will. 4, c. 10, for three years; which introduced a provision, found necessary, giving to the officer who was in charge of the pauper the power of a constable, so that he might detain such person in any county, wherever he might be passing, although he was not a constable of that county. The Act was continued for three years by the 7th of William the Fourth. It was afterwards continued again by 3 & 4 Vict. c. 27, until the 1st of August 1843.

76. Sir *G. Grey.*] Without any change?—Without any alteration whatever, further than the introduction of that single clause which I have mentioned, and which was afterwards further continued.

77. *Chairman.*] Then I believe we come to the Act which is now in force?—The last Act which was passed was the 8 & 9 Vict., c. 117, which was passed in 1845. That is the Act which is now in force.

78. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Was there not an intermediate Act after the 3d & 4th of Victoria?—Yes; it was only a continuing Act.

79. What is the date of it?—It is the 7 & 8 Vict. c. 42, which is merely a continuing Act. Then the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, was passed in August 1845; and is the Act which is now in force. It has been amended by a subsequent Act in one provision, but it is the Act in force at present. It repealed all the previous Acts, including the Act relating to Jersey and Guernsey; it consolidated all, in fact, in one series of provisions.

80. *Chairman.*] The Act which you are now speaking of is the Act which at present regulates the removals from England to Ireland, Scotland, Jersey, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, and the Scilly Isles?—It is.

81. Sir *G. Grey.*] Subject to the alteration made by an Act passed in 1847?—It is so.

82. Mr. *Liddell.*] It comprises, then, the main provisions of those various statutes which you have been enumerating in your evidence before the Committee?—It comprises what I have stated, with the alterations of course that have been made.

83. *Chairman.*] For the sake of accuracy, will you state its provisions?—The first clause is merely a repealing clause; it repeals all the previous enactments upon the subject. Then the second clause enacts, "That if any person born in Scotland or Ireland, or in the Isle of Man, or Scilly, or Jersey, or Guernsey, not settled in England, become chargeable to any parish in England, by reason of relief given to himself or herself, or to his wife, or to any legitimate or bastard child, such person, his wife, and any child so chargeable shall be liable to be removed respectively to Scotland, Ireland, the Isle of Man, Scilly, Jersey, or Guernsey; and if the guardians of such parish, or of any union in which the same may be comprised, or, where there are no such guardians, if the overseers of such parish complain thereof to any one justice of the peace, such justice may, if such person do not attend voluntarily, summon him to come before any two justices of the peace at any time and place to be named in the summons; and at such time and place, or on the attendance of such person, any two justices

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may hear and examine into the matter of such complaint; and if it be made to appear to their satisfaction that such person is liable to be so removed as aforesaid, and if they see fit, they may make and issue a warrant under their hands and seals to remove such person forthwith at the expense of such union or parish." That is in fact a power given to justices to remove; and it will be observed that it differs from the previous power mainly in the discretionary authority which is thereby given to the justices. They are empowered, if they think fit, to make an order; they are not compelled to do so, as they appear to have been under the previous statute. All notion of vagrancy, or the commission of an act of vagrancy, is removed, because it simply turns upon the question of chargeability, and the persons to make the application are the guardians of the union or parish, where it is under a Board of Guardians, and in other cases only the overseers of parishes. Of course there are very few parishes which are not in a union or under a Board of Guardians, and therefore the overseers seldom have anything to do with the matter. It is provided also, that it is no longer to be a county charge, but the expense is to be borne by the union or the parish.

84. Sir *B. Hall.*] You say that the paupers are removed at the expense of the union or parish; when parishes are in union, the expense is laid upon the union?—Upon the common fund.

85. And where it is a sole parish and not a union, it is upon that parish?—Yes; but there is a subsequent provision with regard to parishes of small extent; there is a reimbursement where parishes are of very small extent, and not in union; then the county rate is to bear the charge; at the same time, I believe that practically that is of very little consequence, there being so very few parishes in that position. The fifth clause provides, "That in the case of any parish not in union and not containing a population exceeding 30,000 persons, according to the last census," if the guardians or overseers upon whose complaint the removal was made make application duly to the county or to the borough, they are to be reimbursed out of the county or the borough rate. The statute goes on to facilitate, in fact, the removal, by giving the same power of a constable to the person who has the charge and custody of the parties, as that contained in the amended Act of the 7th of William the Fourth to which I have referred. But I should like to mention that a difficulty has arisen which is rather important with regard to this subject; Clause 3 runs thus: "That every person to whom any warrant made in pursuance of this Act shall be delivered for the purpose of being carried into execution, shall detain and hold in safe-custody every poor person mentioned therein, until such poor person have arrived at the place to which he is ordered to be removed, and shall for that purpose, in every county and place through which he may pass in the due execution of such warrant, have and exercise the powers with which a constable is by law invested, notwithstanding such person may not otherwise be empowered to act as a constable for such county or place." I believe those are the words that were in the 7th of William the Fourth; but at the time when the 7th of William the Fourth was passed, the only direction that was given was to remove a person to Ireland or Scotland, as the case might be, and therefore the place to which the person was ordered to be removed might be Ireland or Scotland only. But we find now that by this Act of Parliament the justices are to provide, as will appear by the 4th clause, "for the removing of persons born in Ireland to the *ports* named in the Schedule marked (A.) to this Act annexed, which are nearest to the respective places where such persons were born or have resided, unless where any such persons consent to be removed to any other port or place in Ireland;" and there is a similar provision with regard to persons born in Scotland. A question, therefore, of some nicety arises upon this third clause, whether it is not the duty of the person who has the custody and charge of the pauper to carry the pauper to the place to which he is ordered to be removed, and whether it is simply meant the country, Ireland or Scotland, as the case may be, or one of the ports specifically mentioned, to which the pauper is ultimately removable. In point of practice, the custom in this country is undoubtedly to put the pauper into the custody of some individual, who conveys the pauper simply on shipboard, and there leaves him.

86. Sir *G. Grey.*] What are the ports specified?—There are eight in Ireland; Dublin, Wexford, Waterford, Cork, Limerick, Derry, Belfast, and Dundalk. In Scotland there are nine; Dumfries, Ayr, Greenock, Glasgow, Oban, Inverness, Aberdeen, Dundee, and Edinburgh. The next alteration which was introduced

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in this Act of Parliament was a provision that the justices should revise their regulations; that they should make fresh regulations for carrying the Act into force; and in such regulations should make the provision which I have mentioned, how the persons are to be taken to their different places.

87. Are those regulations to be subject to any approval?—Yes; they are to be approved of by one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and they are to be observed in carrying into effect afterwards all the orders; but until the fresh regulations are made, the previous regulations are to continue.

88. Mr. *Maguire.*] Until that time there was no controlling power, and the magistrate might make any such order as he pleased?—He was bound to make an order before, but he was bound to make his order to take the person simply to Ireland or Scotland, as the case might be.

89. But any order so made by the magistrate or magistrates was made upon their own responsibility; there was no revising power?—There was not.

90. Sir *G. Grey.*] When you speak of a revising power, you do not mean that there is a power in the Secretary of State to cancel an order of removal?—No.

91. Is not what you mean merely this, that the regulations for carrying the law into effect must be approved by the Secretary of State?—Yes.

92. And that there is no longer a discretion in the magistrates as to the port to which the pauper is to be sent, but that there are certain specified ports, and of those the magistrates are bound to make an order of removal to the port nearest the place of birth of the pauper, except with the pauper's consent?—Yes.

93. Mr. *Maguire.*] But up to that time were the magistrates empowered to make such regulations as they pleased?—They could, under the 3d & 4th William the Fourth.

94. They could do it of their own authority?—Yes, without any obstruction or restraint whatsoever. But, by the 8th & 9th Victoria, the regulations to be made by the justices at quarter sessions are to be approved of by the Secretary of State. The Act, however, proceeds a little further in the matter, because it creates a mode of appeal; it contemplated that grievances might arise under those orders, and a power of appeal was proposed, and is contained in the Act of Parliament. However, I am bound to say that it has not proved a very satisfactory contrivance.

95. *Chairman.*] Section 6?—Section 6 provides, "That if any Board of Guardians of any union in Ireland, or the heritors and kirk session or borough magistrates in Scotland, think themselves aggrieved by any removal of any poor person under the provisions of this Act, and if they forward to the Poor-law Commissioners a statement of the case, and of any grounds for concluding that such poor person is settled in any parish in England, or was not in law liable to be removed to Ireland or Scotland, as the case may be, and if they or any persons on their behalf give good security in England to the said Commissioners for the payment of all costs which may be incurred in any appeal against the warrant for the removal of such poor person, such Commissioners, if satisfied that it will be expedient so to do, may appeal, on behalf of the persons so aggrieved, to the court of quarter sessions holden for the county or borough from which such removal was made, held at any time within six months after such removal was completed: and such Commissioners shall, at least 21 days before the holding of such session, send, by post or otherwise, to the guardians or overseers on whose application such warrant was obtained, notice in writing, purporting to be signed by their secretary or one of their assistant secretaries, of their intention to appeal against such warrant, containing a statement in writing of the ground of such appeal;" and then the court of quarter sessions are to hear and determine such appeal. Then, if the warrant of removal is reversed, the guardians or overseers who obtained it are to pay the costs, and provision is made for the recovery thereof. A power is given for abandoning the warrant, if the guardians or overseers think fit.

96. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Had the poor person any right of appeal?—He had not; no power of appeal is given to the party removed. This provision has proved to be a very unsatisfactory one. At the time when the Act was passed, there was but one Board for the two countries of Ireland and England, and the Poor-law Commissioners had authority over the whole. Probably it was contemplated at the time, and I have reason to think that it was so contemplated, that by the power so vested in them they would have an opportunity of

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settling the matter practically between the unions in Ireland and the unions in England, and that in all probability no appeal need arise. However, the two Boards have been long since separated, the Poor-law Board in England and the Poor-law Commissioners in Ireland. No authority is given to the Poor-law Commissioners in Ireland, and the Poor-law Board in England are not now very well in a position to carry on an appeal as appellate parties against the Board of Guardians of one of the unions or parishes in England. In fact, it has never been attempted but in one instance; and then the difficulty of correspondence for the purpose of obtaining certainty as to the facts in dispute was so great, that the Poor-law Board failed from want of having sufficient time to give the proper notices.

97. Mr. *Maguire.*] In fact, it has been practically a dead letter?—Entirely. One point arises also at starting in regard to Scotland, namely, that the right to appeal is given to the heritors and kirk session. In the same year, and by an Act of Parliament which was passed a few weeks, or perhaps not quite so much, before this very Act of Parliament, all the administration of the poor-law in Scotland was taken out of the kirk session and vested in the parochial Board; so that the persons who are really interested in the appeal in Scotland have no right to appeal under this clause at all.

98. Sir *G. Grey.*] When you say that that clause has been a dead letter, do you mean that no appeals have been brought from Boards of Guardians in Ireland under the notice of the Poor-law Commissioners?—No cases have been brought before the Poor-law Commissioners in such a shape as to enable the proceedings to be taken in a court of law. Complaints and grievances have been brought occasionally before the Poor-law Board, no doubt, but no case except one has ever been brought forward in such a shape as to enable the Poor-law Commissioners to take steps for carrying on an appeal before the quarter sessions.

99. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are you aware that the Poor-law Board in England have held that they were not to be the active parties in prosecuting the appeal, and that, although they receive security for costs, they have declined to undertake the conduct of the case?—The view which the Poor-law Board have entertained is this: that, although they are necessarily nominal parties, it really is a matter between the Board of Guardians in Ireland and the Board of Guardians in England, and that they have not sufficient means to carry on the appeal, further than to lend their name to it as nominal parties. They exercise, in the first instance, the right of saying whether there really is a fair, reasonable ground for commencing the appeal, or for allowing the appeal to take place; but after they have ascertained this, they have thought it right in the case which did occur, and in one or two others where the appeal has been contemplated, to state that the position which they ought to take is that of only allowing their name to be used, but leaving the parties who are really aggrieved to conduct the suit themselves.

100. So that, in point of fact, they have inquired into the preliminary circumstances, entailing generally considerable correspondence, in order that they might be satisfied in their own minds of the propriety of going on with the case, though at the same time they have not undertaken to forward it, or to aid in any way in the conduct of the case before the legal tribunal?—Yes; but that arises upon the language of the clause itself.

101. Has the consequence of this been, that in numerous cases the delay arising from the difficulty entertained by the Poor-law Board here has been such that the Irish Boards of Guardians, seeking to appeal, have found themselves debarred by that proviso as to six months?—I do not think I can say that; I believe there are very few cases (I may say I do not remember any case) in which the proceedings, when fully investigated, and when the whole facts came out, were such as would have supported any appeal. The result of this correspondence has usually been to find out either that there was a misunderstanding in Ireland as to what had taken place in England, or an absolute impossibility of proving, in a manner so as to be satisfactory to a court of law in England, the case which was attempted to be set up in Ireland.

102. Are you aware that that is an opinion which is not shared by the Poor-law Board in Ireland?—I am not aware how that may be.

103. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Has not one case arisen in which the guardians of a particular parish in this country refused to give information which the Poor-law Board had deemed necessary with a view to the elucidation of the question?—

question?—Certainly. I believe that one or two Boards of Guardians have said, that considering the position which the Poor-law Board were in as appellants, or likely to be appellants, there was a difficulty in the case, and they declined to supply information to the Poor-law Board, which would be used by the Poor-law Board against them in a court of law. The Poor-law Board felt this to be a very serious answer.

104. Did it not appear that the Poor-law Board either had no power, or did not see that there was sufficient reason for proceeding before the six months to obtain that information which was necessary in order to have the question brought before the proper tribunal?—I stated that I believe the Poor-law Board felt that it was a very difficult position for them to be placed in, to call upon the Board of Guardians to supply them with information which their general control and superintendence over the poor-law of England would enable them to obtain, and afterwards to use it in evidence against the guardians themselves in a court of law; it appeared to be a very serious and embarrassing position, which the Poor-law Board declined to take.

105. *Chairman.*] They declined upon that objection being taken by the guardians, I believe?—I believe so. I know that that objection was brought forward, and the Board felt it to be so.

106. Sir *G. Grey.*] Have those cases of complaint which have been brought before the Poor-law Board been founded upon the allegation that paupers have been removed under the provisions of the law to Ireland or to Scotland, who had a legal settlement in England?—I will not say that there have been no cases, because perhaps one or two may be found in which some point of settlement has arisen; but the greater number of the cases have been cases in which a claim has been set up of irremovability under the late statute. It would occur to every one that it is almost impracticable for an Irishman to have acquired a settlement in England since the date of these latter Acts of Parliament, and therefore no question of settlement ever arises in these cases. A woman may acquire a settlement through an English husband; but that is a different point.

107. Am I to understand you that the ground of complaint has been, that persons have been removed under these orders of removal, who were alleged to have acquired the right of irremovability under the Act?—Yes; and when we have had an opportunity of investigating the cases, they have generally turned out, that though it was true that the Irish person has been in some parts of London during perhaps several years, he has shifted his residence from parish to parish, which fact to him appeared immaterial, but was an answer to the claims of irremovablity under the statute; and when we have investigated it, we have found that the appeal could not succeed, and we have generally given that answer.

108. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is it the fact that the Poor-law Board have required a statement of the details, such as the name of the magistrate by whom the warrant or order of removal has been granted, and other details which could not be supplied, and that on that ground they have declined to entertain the case?—That is one ground, certainly; and that is necessary for this reason, that if the Poor-law Board are to appeal, they must find out what it is that they are to appeal against; they must find out the warrant, and the persons who have made the warrant in the first place, to describe it in their notice of appeal, and to know against whom the appeal is to be brought. I am quite prepared to say, that this Act of Parliament is very defective in that respect, because the only persons who have the warrant of removal would be the parties on whose behalf the application is made, or the justices; and I believe the justices cannot be called upon themselves to produce the warrant. But it might have assisted us if we could have obtained the information from the Guardians as to what magistrate had made the warrant; we could probably then have taken the requisite steps; but if we could not tell who had issued the warrant, of course it was impossible to frame the notice of appeal.

109. Is it the fact that the Poor-law Board in England have not legal power to enforce the giving of information respecting removal by the parish authorities here?—I do not admit that; the Poor-law Board have ample power.

110. Your attention, perhaps, has been called to the fact, that in the recent Return to the Order of the House of Commons a very large number of parishes and unions, including many metropolitan parishes, have refused or neglected to furnish returns upon this subject; are you aware whether the Poor-law Board have power to call for them?—Undoubtedly the Poor-law Board, under the

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4th & 5th William the Fourth, and the subsequent Act, under which the Poor-law Board is constituted, may call upon any authority whatever to give them information on any matter relating to the administration of the relief of the poor. There can be no doubt whatever that the Poor-law Board might summon any person whom they thought fit to give information as to the removal of any particular Irish pauper from England to Ireland; and if the Poor-law Board were not likely to be appellants, probably the Poor-law Board, in the exercise of their discretion in any particular case, might think it right to do so; but I have stated that it is the peculiar position in which they are placed which has induced the Poor-law Board to decline, so far as I am able to give their reasons for their judgment, to do so.

111. In respect of any matter which would involve the dismissal of an officer by the Poor-law Board, would they hesitate to enforce the giving of such information as would enable them to ascertain whether the officer had acted illegally or not?—As far as the Poor-law Board are concerned, the Poor-law Board would take their own measures for acquiring information to enable them to exercise their own functions, and powers, and authorities under the Poor-law Amendment Act; but if the question be with reference to proceedings between third parties who might call in question the proceedings of any officer, the Poor-law Board would exercise a discretion as to whether they would require the information, or whether they would leave the parties interested to adopt the measures which the law would supply, to compel the production of that which might be required in evidence.

112. In the cases of complaints which have come from Ireland, the question has been simply this, whether the local authorities invested with the power of the administration of the law have acted in breach of the Act of Parliament?—The Poor-law Board have certainly investigated cases of charges that have been made against particular individuals, of harshness or misconduct in carrying out the provisions of this Act of Parliament. Officers have misconducted themselves. Probably it will appear that some officers have either actually misconducted themselves, or have been charged with misconduct, and those charges have been investigated. Evidence has been taken to see whether the case was supported or not. I cannot say exactly what the result of all those investigations may have been. There have been no great number, but in some cases it has been found that persons deserved reprimand; on the other hand, in the greater number of cases the charges have turned out to be frivolous.

113. *Chairman.*] Have the Poor-law Board ever hesitated to ask an officer against whom a charge has been made for an explanation of his conduct?—Not at all; it is their universal practice.

114. Mr. *J. Ball.*] In cases where it is alleged that persons either in Ireland or in Scotland have acted against the law, the Poor-law Board will not compel the parish authorities to give such information as will enable them to judge whether those persons have done so or not?—I think I have answered already to what extent the Poor-law Board would do so.

115. *Chairman.*] In cases of that sort, has the objection been taken, by guardians, that they might be called upon to supply evidence against themselves?—It has been taken.

116. Have the Poor-law Board yielded to that objection?—They have.

117. Have you conceived that in doing that, they were acting upon ordinary legal principles?—Upon sound discretionary principles, which in the position in which they were placed it became necessary for them to adopt.

118. Another question was put by the Honourable Member just now about the defect in a return; that a return had been moved for, and when it came in, it appeared that there were a number of places which had not made returns; the authority there was the authority of the House of Commons calling for the return, was it not, and not of the Poor-law Board?—Yes.

119. Mr. *J. Ball.*] To whom do the House of Commons usually send their orders?—The House of Commons, by their officers, usually send their orders to the Home-office; they come from the Home-office to the Poor-law Board, if it is a matter relating to the Poor-law administration.

120. *Chairman.*] They transmit them; the Poor-law Board do not make any order in that case, do they?—Not at all; the Poor-law Board transmit the orders to the parties, and give them the best information they can as to how they may most conveniently answer them, and the Poor-law Board receive the replies.

121. Mr.

121. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is it your general conclusion, from what you know of the working of this Act, that it is altogether inoperative, for the protection of Boards of Guardians or other parties in Ireland or Scotland?—I have no doubt whatever that this appeal clause is an incomplete provision.

122. That it is completely inoperative?—That it is inoperative and useless; of that I have no doubt.

123. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you a record of the number of paupers removed from this country since the passing of the Act in 1845?—No; I am not aware of any such record.

124. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Will you refer to the Parliamentary paper now placed in your hand, and state generally what were the circumstances of the case with reference to the pauper, Bridget Garrey?—Bridget Garrey and her children had been removed to Ireland from St. Luke's, Middlesex. She stated that she had lived 16 years in St. Luke's, Middlesex. If she had lived 16 years in St. Luke's, Middlesex, she, being (as we presume) a widow, was irremovable under the Act of Parliament; but then it depended upon her residence in that parish, and whether that was true or not.

125. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was a complaint made in that case by the Board of Guardians in Ireland of the illegality of the removal?—It was.

126. What steps did the Poor-law Board take?—The Poor-law Board inquired of the guardians of St. Luke's whether they would give them any information; the guardians of St. Luke's declined; they would give no information.

127. *Chairman.*] What did they say?—"I am desired by the Board of Guardians of the poor of this parish to acknowledge the receipt of your letter relative to the case of Bridget Garrey and her two children; and to inform you, in answer thereto, that they were removed under order of justices to Ireland in the usual way, and that the guardians do not think it fair that they should be called upon to give information in cases of removal which might possibly be used against them, and therefore respectfully decline to do so."

128. I think you said that the Poor-law Board avoided calling upon them, being in fact the appellants in the appeal under this Act of Parliament?—Yes. Suppose this position: suppose the Poor-law Board had insisted upon these parties giving information, had insisted upon the guardians coming forward and supplying testimony, the Poor-law Board would then have communicated it to the guardians in Ireland; the authorities in Ireland would have said, "Now we have sufficient evidence, we can support the appeal; the Poor-law Commissioners must institute the appeal if we put them in possession of due security." The Poor-law Commissioners would have felt, in such a case as that, that they had no discretion, if the case fully warranted an appeal. Of course, if the facts were supported, the Poor-law Commissioners would then have been in the position of extracting evidence, compelling parties to give evidence, and then using that evidence against the parties who had so given it.

129. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] In point of fact, however anomalous the position of the Poor-law Board under such circumstances, does it not impose an obstacle almost insurmountable to a Board of Guardians in prosecuting an appeal, no matter what the circumstances of the case may be?—No, I do not admit that. There is no reason why the Board of Guardians might not have done in this case as occasionally Boards of Guardians have done in others. The Irish Board of Guardians might have sent some one over here; I do not say exactly a messenger; but if they had engaged an attorney to investigate the case in London, they would have found evidence independently of the guardians of St. Luke's. By two or three inquiries made in the parish of St. Luke's, it would have been found out whether this woman had lived five years without relief in the parish of St. Luke's, and upon that evidence they could have gone to trial quite independently of the evidence of the guardians.

130. Sir *G. Grey.*] What would have been the case supposing a parish in Cornwall had complained of the illegal removal to the parish in Cornwall of a pauper from St. Luke's, that parish in Cornwall alleging that the pauper had resided in St. Luke's more than five years?—The Poor-law Board would have adopted the same course; they would have said, "This matter is in litigation, or likely to be in litigation," and they would have left it for the two Boards of Guardians themselves to investigate; but if it had involved the question of illegality or improper conduct on the part of an officer, then the Poor-law Board would

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would have felt it necessary to make an investigation either pending the litigation, or probably they would have waited until the litigation was over; but they do not undertake to extract information for the advantage of one side to be used against the other.

131. Mr. *J. Ball.*] But in the case put by Sir George Grey, the parish in Cornwall would have had an absolute right to appeal, and would not have required the Poor-law Board to become the nominal parties?—Certainly.

132. Sir *G. Grey.*] In the case before you, did the Poor-law Board refuse their sanction to the parties making their own inquiries, and carrying on their own appeal?—No; the Poor-law Board simply said, "We have asked the guardians of St. Luke's to give us information;" in other words, "to supply us with evidence; they have declined to do so;" and probably it would have gone no further. When the Poor-law Board was put in that position, I am not sure that the Poor-law Board would have been able to have done anything farther; there was no means of finding out whom to summon; and who could have given the information?

133. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it with the Commissioners in Ireland to give their sanction, or refuse their sanction, to the prosecution of an appeal?—No.

134. Will you read the 6th section?—This Act was passed in the 8 & 9 Vict.; the present Commissioners in Ireland do not constitute the Poor-law Commissioners to whom this Act of Parliament referred; it was enacted before the constitution of the Irish Board.

135. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Excepting this power of appeal to the quarter sessions by the kirk session in Scotland, is there any remedy against an illegal removal; for instance, could the heritors and kirk session in Scotland bring an action in a court of law in England, to be reimbursed for the maintenance of a person alleged to have been illegally removed to Scotland?—No, they could not.

136. No such action would lie?—No such action would lie; probably the pauper himself might have an action for having been illegally removed, but that is not of much advantage.

137. Mr. *Maguire.*] When was the Irish Board constituted?—In 1847.

138. Up to 1847, it was the English Board, or the Board selected for the two countries, that had the power either of sanctioning or withholding its sanction. Will you read the 6th section of the 8 & 9 Vict., c. 117?—"That if any Board of Guardians of any union in Ireland, or the heritors and kirk session or borough magistrates in Scotland, think themselves aggrieved by any removal of any poor person under the provisions of this Act, and if they forward to the Poor-law Commissioners"——

139. Which means the Poor-law Commissioners in England?—Yes; they were the only Poor-law Commissioners then existing: "and if they forward to the Poor-law Commissioners a statement of the case, and of any grounds for concluding that such poor person is settled in any parish in England, or was not in law liable to be removed to Ireland or Scotland, as the case may be, and if they, or any persons on their behalf, give good security in England to the said Commissioners for the payment of all costs which may be incurred in any appeal against the warrant for the removal of such poor person, such Commissioners, if satisfied that it will be expedient so to do, may appeal, on behalf of the persons so aggrieved, to the court of quarter sessions."

140. That English tribunal was to be the preliminary judge in all cases affecting Irish paupers?—But the Poor-law Commissioners at that time were also the Commissioners regulating the Irish Poor Law.

141. Have you any return in your office of the number of paupers removed since the passing of that Act of 1845?—No.

142. *Chairman.*] Have you gone through your observations upon the statutes?—Very little more remains upon these Acts of Parliament, excepting, perhaps, that it may be as well to notice that there was a difficulty found in carrying the 8th & 9th Victoria into execution at the time of the great Irish immigration during the famine. It was then found, on reference to the second clause, that the first step to be taken was to summon the alleged Irish pauper; it was found that that process was impracticable; that a pauper having applied for relief disappeared, or the name was the same as that of so many others, that it was difficult to identify the party when it was attempted to summon him. It was found, in large places like Liverpool and some parts of the metropolis, impracticable, therefore, to carry this Act into operation at that time. It therefore became

became necessary that a rather stronger power should be given; and in 10 & 11 Vict., c. 33, provision was made to enable the relieving officer, or a guardian, or the overseer, to take a person immediately upon application for relief, without a summons or without a warrant, before the justices, to obtain an order of removal; otherwise the relief would have been obtained, and the party would have vanished. Power was given, therefore, both in England and in Scotland, for the relieving officer to take the party before the justices, without the necessity of a previous summons or warrant. There is no other provision which specially applies to the removal of Irish or Scotch or Channel Islanders since this Act of Parliament.

143. Can you point out to the Committee any objections which have occurred to you in your experience at the Poor-law Board, in the working of this statute, 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, besides those which you have mentioned with respect to the appeal powers?—In the first place, it would be desirable that one or two points which are in doubt in the Act (if the Act continues) should be cleared up. There is a very important difficulty which arises upon the second clause. It will be observed that the words are: "If any person born in Scotland or Ireland, or in the Isle of Man or Scilly, or Jersey or Guernsey, not settled in England, become chargeable to any parish in England by reason of relief given to himself or herself, or to his wife, or to any legitimate or bastard child, such person, his wife, and any child so chargeable, shall be liable to be removed respectively to Scotland and Ireland," and so on; and that person is to be summoned before the justices. Now the case has arisen, it is not by any means an unusual one, of a husband having deserted and left his wife and children; and a difficulty has arisen as to whether the wife can be taken before the justices and removed alone without him. Some justices have certainly done this; their orders have been issued, and persons have been removed whose husbands have deserted them, or whose husbands have been merely absent from them; they have been removed on becoming chargeable to Ireland, but there is great doubt whether that is a legal course of proceeding. One of the judges, Mr. Justice Coleridge, for instance, has expressed his opinion that the man is to appear before the justices, and that the family cannot be removed without him. He apparently reads the whole of the statute, as requiring that the man should be before the justices. Now that is a doubt which ought to be removed. I do not exactly know what view the Committee may take as to the proper course to be pursued: whether they should insist upon the husband being had before the justices, or whether the woman should be allowed to be removed, although her husband was not forthcoming; but that doubt existing, if the Acts are to be amended, it would be desirable that it should be cleared up.

144. Sir *G. Grey.*] Does that doubt extend not only to the wife, but to all the members of the family?—It would extend to the wife and children. It may be a serious question, whether it would be right that the woman should be taken and sent away with her family to Ireland, and that the husband, who may have been absent temporarily, or on business, or on desertion, should find them all gone when he returned.

145. Is what you have mentioned a decision of Mr. Justice Coleridge?—No, the point has never yet been decided; it is only his statement in the course of two cases which came before him, in which he laid down the doctrine to that effect, that they are all to be brought before the justices together.

146. Would the wife of a man who had deserted his family, the family thereby becoming chargeable to a parish in England, be liable to be removed to the husband's settlement, although the husband was not found?—She would be, certainly; the desertion of the husband, as the Courts have decided, even breaks the five years' residence, so that the woman, in that case, would be liable to be removed. But she is only sent, of course, to some parish in England, the parish of her settlement.

147. *Chairman.*] What is the next point to which you would refer?—The next question which has been raised, is a question as to the authority of the justices, in the regulations which they propose to make; and upon that there is a difference between the law officers of the Crown under the late Administration, and the previous law officers of the Crown. The question was raised as to what powers the justices had in making their regulations. Many justices at the quarter sessions, carrying out the provision as it stood in the previous Act of Parliament, provided that they would enter into contracts with proper pass-masters; that they would contract for persons to receive the paupers; that they

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would give directions how the paupers were to be removed from one country to another, and that persons undertaking to remove them should make the contracts with the justices. This had been the course under the previous Act of Parliament, when the county justices paid the expenses. When the whole charges came upon the county rate, the justices made these arrangements, and no person seemed to be interested in calling them in question; as the justices had to pay for the removal the question was not thought material, and the justices contracted with some particular person to carry the removal into effect. But when this Act came into operation, by which the charge was thrown upon the parishes and unions, several of the parishes, especially in the metropolis, called in question the authority of the justices to make those contracts; they insisted that it was a matter which the guardians and the parish officers themselves should carry out, and that they could make better terms with the shipowners and captains than the justices had done; they therefore raised the question as to how far this was legal. The case was submitted on the part of the Middlesex justices to the present Attorney-general and Mr. Atherton, and they gave their opinion that the justices had no power to make any regulations of this kind; that they could not appoint a pass-master, nor enter into any contract for the transmission of the paupers to Ireland. That being so, the justices in Middlesex immediately altered their proceedings, and left the parishes to remove the paupers as they could. Since that the matter has been reconsidered, and the late Attorney and Solicitor-general gave their opinion that it was quite competent for the justice to make these provisions; and since that time, in some counties the justices have continued to make those arrangements; have taken upon themselves to appoint a pass-master; that of course is a point which ought to be cleared up with reference to any further alteration here. These are mere matters of detail upon the construction of the Act of Parliament, but I think there is in the Act itself a very serious evil, as far as the authorities in Ireland and in Scotland are concerned; because it certainly appears to me that the Act of Parliament is defective, in not providing some means by which the authorities in those countries can have some intimation beforehand of the coming paupers. In England, if a pauper is ordered to be removed to the parish of his settlement, the removing parish is bound to give notice immediately of the order of removal, and the grounds of removal, and, if asked for, even copies of the depositions; and those are to be sent to the parish of the alleged settlement at least three weeks before the removal can take place. They are to be sent by post; the parish receives due intimation, and can forthwith inquire into the case. If they are satisfied as to the settlement, they of course admit the pauper; if not, they contest it by appeal, and the pauper remains unremoved till that question is settled. Upon that notice they are prepared to receive the pauper. But with regard to the Irish and the Scotch, there is no intimation conveyed in the slightest degree to the authorities that the paupers are coming, or that they are to be expected, and consequently, they are oftentimes left on the coast without being provided for or known, or any information being supplied to the guardians; the guardians have no copies of the warrant, and have no information upon the subject. Therefore I think that some amendment is necessary, requiring the parties who obtain the warrant in England immediately to send a copy of it (for there is no practical difficulty in doing so) by post, to the guardians of the place where the party is to be sent to; whether it should be to the place of his birth or to the port at which he is to be landed I will not say, but information ought to be communicated, and a reasonable time allowed before the pauper should be allowed to be sent.

148. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] The evidence, in fact, upon which the removal takes place?—Whether it should be done analogous to the provisions relating to orders of removal or not, I will not say; probably that would be right. There is no reason why a Board of Guardians in Ireland should be in a worse situation with regard to an Irish pauper than a Board of Guardians in England is with regard to the removal of an English pauper.

149. Sir *G. Grey.*] In an English case, at whose expense is the pauper maintained during that three weeks' interval between the notice and the actual removal, supposing the removal to be afterwards acquiesced in?—That is a question which has never yet been judicially settled, as to who is to pay for the 21 days' maintenance; but the generally received opinion, and that which is generally acted upon, is, that the appellant party must pay for the 21 days; but that if the party is kept in the parish longer than the 21 days unnecessarily, then

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the removing parish pays the extra amount. If any question of appeal is raised, the Act of Parliament provides expressly that the justices may make an order afterwards upon the appellant parish to pay the whole cost of the maintenance during the time that the party has been kept at the cost of the removing parish.

150. The appellant parish being the parish to which the order of removal is made?—Yes.

151. Therefore, to make the analogy complete, you would require that the Board of Guardians in Ireland should pay the intervening expense?—Yes, that they should pay the expense of maintenance in England during that interval.

152. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Do you mean your last answers to apply to cases of appeal, where a parish at a distance appeals against the removal and causes the order to be suspended, or do they apply to every case in which a notice is given. You used the words, "appellant parish;" where no objection is made, what is the case?—Under the Poor-law Amendment Act a pauper cannot be removed for 21 days. Where the parish to which he is to be removed raise no question about the settlement, they might write and say, "We will take the pauper to-morrow, if you like to send him over." But they do not; they let the 21 days intervene, and take the chance of what may happen in the interval, and then the pauper is removed. Then the question has been raised, who is to pay for the 21 days' maintenance? That has never, as I said, been judicially settled; but the general opinion has been, and the course of practice has been, for the parish to which the pauper is to be removed to pay for the 21 days. If, on the other hand, the parish obtaining the order thinks fit to say, "Now the 21 days are up, and it is not convenient to send the pauper;" or, "We will not send the pauper," and holds over, then the parish which has the power of removing, but does not exercise it, pays the extra cost of maintenance. But if there is an actual appeal, then the Poor-law Amendment Act comes in and provides for it.

153. *Chairman.*] Practically, it abides the result of the appeal?—It does.

154. Colonel *Mure.*] Is it the case now in Scotland and Ireland that the parishes have no means whatever, until the pauper is sent to them, of knowing whether the removal has been proper and just, or not; whether the person may not have a settlement in England. May they have a dozen paupers sent to them, who are afterwards upon investigation all found really to have their settlement in the parish from which they have been removed?—That is so; they have no knowledge of the circumstances whatever, until a pauper, who perhaps has not been born in their parish and has never been there, nor of whom they can obtain any information, is suddenly left at their port. That, I say, is a thing which in this Act requires amendment.

155. *Chairman.*] As I understand it, the whole proceeding is *ex parte* up to the time of arrival in Ireland or Scotland, as the case may be?—They are not told when the investigation before the justices takes place; there is no part of the proceedings of which they have notice, but the order is made, and the pauper sent off, and their first intimation is his arrival in Ireland or Scotland.

156. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to the provisions of that Act, and the evidence which you have already given, suggesting that previous to the Poor-law Board giving their sanction to an appeal, the Board of Guardians in Ireland should make inquiry here as to the facts of the case, are you aware that, in the course of the correspondence which has taken place between the Poor-law Board in Ireland and the Poor-law Board here, the Poor-law Board in England were informed that a legal opinion had been taken as to the power of Boards of Guardians in Ireland to incur expenditure for that object, and that it appears to be contrary to the provisions of the Irish Poor Relief Act for the guardians to incur any such expenses, excepting where an appeal has been actually brought in the manner laid down in the Act of Parliament?—That correspondence certainly escaped my notice; I do not remember it.

157. *Chairman.*] Will you finish the points on the working of the Act to which you wish to draw the attention of the Committee?—I think there is an objection to the examination. The course has been this. The Act of Parliament gives a form of examination; it is a printed form; it contains certain blanks; and it is matter of complaint that this form is put before the parties, and that they either sign it without knowing what it is, or they affix their marks to it without knowing what it means; and consequently, when it is read over to them

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afterwards, when they get to Ireland, they state either that they never said it, or that it was never explained to them, and they repudiate it.

158. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the clause to which you refer?—The statute gives this form of examination: "The examination of taken on oath before us, two of Her Majesty's justices of the peace, acting in and for the [county, riding, city, borough, town corporate, division or liberty] aforesaid, this day of in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ,who on oath saith, that according to the best of [his or her] knowledge and belief, [he or she] was born in , in that part of the United Kingdon called Scotland [or Ireland, or in the Isle of Man, or Scilly, or Jersey or Guernsey,] which [he or she] left about years ago, and hath no settlement in that part of the United Kingdom called England, and hath actually become, and is now chargeable to the [parish, township, &c.] of in the county of [and that he hath a wife named , and children, neither of which children have gained a settlement in England.] Sworn the day and year first above written before us." Now if, instead of this, the justices were to examine the party, and take down the facts that the party really ought to depose to, it would be more satisfactory than that this form should be placed before the party to sign.

159. That party is asked in fact to say, that he or she has had no legal settlement in England?—Certainly, it is to depose on oath to that, to the best of his belief.

160. And you wish to have the evidence, upon which that conclusion can be come to?—I think it right that the justices should do in this, as in every other case of removal, namely, that they should take a proper deposition.

161. *Chairman.*] As they do in English cases?—Yes; and that they should not have a printed form submitted by them to the persons brought before them, because the parties afterwards complain (and we do not know whether rightly or wrongly) that a thing was put before them, they did not know what.

162. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Is it not obvious, that an Irish pauper called upon to sign a declaration of that kind, can know nothing whatever about a settlement?—He can know nothing about a settlement, certainly.

163. Mr. *Maguire.*] In point of law, the magistrates are required to remove that pauper, upon the sole ground that he or she has no legal settlement in England?—Yes; and more than that, the form ought to go further than at present. It is not sufficient in the present state of the law; because it should say not only that he has no settlement in that part of the United Kingdom called England, but that he or she has not resided five years in the parish, free from relief; therefore I think that form of examination should be abolished.

164. Supposing a pauper does not sign that form, what course is then adopted?—The only course that is open then, is to commit the pauper to prison for contempt.

165. Then if the pauper refuses to say that he or she is not legally settled in England, the magistrate has the power of committing the party for contempt?—If the pauper will not depose to the evidence.

166. What evidence?—The necessary evidence; and this is part of the necessary evidence.

167. Sir *G. Grey.*] But does not the Act require the justices, upon a complaint being made, to hear and examine into the matter of such complaint; and if it be made to appear to their satisfaction that such person is liable to be so removed as aforesaid, and if they see fit, to make and issue a warrant?—Yes.

168. Does not that imply that it is the duty of the magistrates, before they call upon any Irish pauper to sign that form of examination, to inquire into the facts, and to satisfy themselves that the facts do warrant the removal?—No doubt about it; but when you give to the justices a printed form, and they understand that all that is necessary for them is to get this printed form of examination signed, that for the most part, excepting where there are very skilful and careful men, is very apt to be done quite as a matter of course. I know that some of the justices do not so regard it. I believe at Manchester, where there is a very careful stipendiary magistrate, Mr. Maude, he takes a very great deal of trouble before he ever submits to pass, or to sign these orders; so the police magistrates do in London. But where the orders are obtained from the justices without much ceremony, they appear to consider that all that is necessary is to see that the paupers sign this document, and the parties are removed accordingly; it forms a great ground of complaint on the part of the people in Ireland at the way in which the matter has been done.

169. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] From the necessity of the case, must it not follow that

that the evidence, in most instances, is derivable only from the paupers applying themselves. Who else can state the facts which can lead the magistrates to believe or not to believe that a settlement may have been acquired elsewhere? —They do examine the pauper, by asking the pauper to sign this form; it is no doubt read over to the pauper, and the pauper signs it, and upon that the magistrate makes the order of removal. In some instances, no doubt, the magistrates proceed very much upon their own examination, asking the person what his name is, or something like that; they very soon find out that he is an Irishman, from his tone and language; still they endeavour to obtain the information from him. We have understood that in many cases evidence has been taken of admission. The relieving officer has put his first question to the pauper applying for relief; what his name is, and where he was born; and the very natural answer of course is, at once, "I was born in" (some place in Ireland), "and my name is" (so and so). That is an admission which is available against the pauper to be removed to Ireland. If the pauper says, "I will not sign this document," there is nothing to prevent the relieving officer from being sworn and giving evidence that the pauper stated himself this fact, which of course is evidence upon which the removal might take place. Clearly, according to the provision of the Act of Parliament, there ought to be, not only the warrant which is set out here, but appended to that should be this form of examination, also signed. My observation goes to removing this form, because I think it would be far better that the justices should decide the matter upon evidence given before them.

170. Sir *G. Grey.*] The effect of your recommendation would be to assimilate the practice in this case to what it is in England as between one parish and another?—Clearly so. I am also rather disposed to recommend another matter, which I think worthy of consideration: whether, upon the whole, these orders should not be made at petty sessions, instead of being made simply by two justices.

171. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you suggest that the magistrate should have detailed evidence, upon which he comes to the conclusion that a pauper is liable to removal because he is not settled, and that that detailed evidence should be given in the order?—Not in the order. The same process should be adopted, with regard to the removal of a pauper to Ireland, as is now adopted in removing a pauper from one parish in England to another; in that case, the justices' clerk sits by and takes down the depositions, and must preserve those depositions, because the parish may require to have copies of the depositions, and know precisely what has been sworn.

172. In an Irish case depositions are taken, are they not?—I apprehend very little more is done than what I have stated. I cannot say what actually now takes place among the different magistrates who make these orders, but I believe them to be made very readily. All that is done is, to have this examination signed, and that is evidence given by the party himself as to the simple facts, namely, of his being born in Ireland to the best of his belief, and that he has no settlement in England. Upon the latter part of the form of examination about a settlement in England, the justices make the order very readily; it almost becomes a mere form.

173. Do you know, of your own knowledge, whether Irish paupers, when brought before the magistrates, very frequently refuse to sign that form?—Certainly we have had complaints and charges made that the paupers have declined to sign this examination; and then the question has arisen, what was to be done.

174. Is there any record of the evidence given by that pauper?—There is no further record than that the depositions which are taken before a magistrate ought to be in writing, and preserved by the magistrate; there is no law which compels the magistrate to do this.

175. There is just the fact that the pauper is to be removed, or that the pauper is not to be removed; is that all which the magistrate takes?—I take it that that is all which the clerk would record.

176. *Chairman.*] You practically do not know anything about it?—No.

177. Were you proposing to make any other suggestions with regard to this statute?—I think that the order ought to be made in petty sessions. At present two justices may make the order, and those two justices may make the order, of course, anywhere; there is nothing to prevent them. It is so undoubtedly with regard to any order of removal; therefore I do not know that there is any difference in the analogy. An order of removal in England may be made by two

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justices sitting anywhere; but seeing the nature of this order, and the character of the people who are brought before the justices, I think it would be very desirable that it should be required that the justices should make the order at petty sessions; it would necessarily give more formality to the whole of the proceedings; it necessarily secures more care and order in the provisions. At present it is not very satisfactorily done, and that indeed in the metropolis. The police magistrates, when applied to, are even very careful in making their orders. But, if there is a difficulty in obtaining an order from a police magistrate, an application may be made to two justices sitting, not at petty sessions but in their private rooms, who will make the order, the police magistrate hesitates or declines to do so. That proceeding has been felt very much, as being a course of action which is not desirable.

178. Mr. *Maguire.*] Of your own knowledge, is it frequently the fact that magistrates do hear those cases, and determine upon those orders at their private residences?—I am quite aware that in the metropolis it is customary for two justices to make the orders, although the police magistrates, if application were made to them, would decline to do so.

179. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you mean to say that the two justices will make an order upon the same facts as those upon which, if they had been placed before a police magistrate, the police magistrate would not have made the order?—Yes.

180. *Chairman.*] To complete our view of the condition of an Irish or Scotch pauper in this country, by the law of this country, I believe, an Irishman or Scotchman may gain a settlement?—By law he may.

181. In your opinion, is an Irishman or Scotchman within the operation of what is called the the Irremovable Act, so that if he has resided in the same parish for a period of five years he is protected from removal?—Yes; I never had any doubt of that being the proper construction of the Act of Parliament the 9th & 10th of Victoria, chapter 66. The law officers of the Crown, soon after the Act was passed, also expressed a positive opinion that there was no doubt that that Act of Parliament was of universal operation with reference to Scotch and Irish, as well as English. I could never find any reason for doubting it whatever; but a doubt was raised as to the proper construction by one counsel, and it was deemed sufficient to induce those who were desirous of removing the Irish, to act upon that doubt. No express judicial decision has ever been obtained. The object of the Poor-law Board in that appeal, which was unfortunate, was to have obtained an actual decision of the court upon the point. However, that appeal failed. Since that time, however, the question has come incidentally before the Court of Queen's Bench in two cases, but in one especially so, that it may now stand as decided, or rather distinctly admitted by the court, that the Act applies equally to Irish and Scotch paupers as to English.

182. Sir *G. Grey.*] Are not these the words of the Act: "That from and after the passing of this Act no person shall be removed, nor shall any warrant be granted for the removal of any person, from any parish in which such person shall have resided for five years next before the application for the warrant"?—Yes, those are the words.

183. Do you think that those words admit of the possibility of a doubt?—Perhaps it is hardly worth while carrying out the ground upon which the doubt was raised, but a doubt was raised very ingeniously; because that Act of Parliament was incorporated with the Poor Law Amendment Act, and it was said that the Poor Law Amendment Act had been decided as not applying to Irish paupers.

184. *Chairman.*] I believe the Poor-law Board have uniformly given the advice that this Act did apply to Irishmen and Scotchmen, and that they had the same privilege as Englishmen?—Yes.

185. Sir *G. Grey.*] You say that there are two cases in which the point has been incidentally mentioned?—Yes; the last case was "The Queen *v.* Thomas James Arnold, esq.," 17 Jur. 300; it related to an Irishman, who was a pauper lunatic. In consequence of this doubt, however, it was held, by various persons who wished to act upon the doctrine, that Irish persons were not within the Irremovable Act, and consequently, no matter what length of time they had resided in a parish, that they were removable. In consequence of the opinion expressed by the Poor-law Board, and which was generally entertained by themselves, I suppose all the police magistrates in the metropolis, without any exception,

exception, refused to make the orders of removal when it was proved that the parties had been five years residing in any particular parish, and were entitled to exemption under this Act of Parliament; but the county magistrates of the metropolitan counties, entertaining a different feeling upon the subject, not being restrained by the public tribunal of a police court, have been in the practice of making orders, and it has been found upon various occasions that the parish officers and other authorities have gone to two county magistrates, and from them have obtained an order for the removal of a person who, if taken before the police magistrates' court, would have been exempted from removal.

186. On the ground of five years' residence?—On the ground of five years' residence. The justices were induced to believe that that was not the law, that there had been no decision to that effect, and that it was not universally admitted; and the paupers have been removed by them, although a police magistrate would not have done so. That is one reason why I should prefer a more competent tribunal than the two justices are likely to be in a matter of this kind.

187. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Are they of that opinion notwithstanding the opinion of the court?—The opinion of the Poor-law Board had no particular weight with the justices, but the Court of Queen's Bench have never been able satisfactorily to decide the question; it has never come before them precisely. It was not until last year that this point was so settled by the court that the court themselves admitted it.

188. Does the practice still continue after the court has so decided?—I cannot say what the practice is now; I believe the orders are not so numerous as they were.

189. Mr. *Maguire.*] What protection would there be at petty sessions more than at present?—There is more formality in the meeting; there is more ceremony.

190. Do you count upon a larger attendance of magistrates than two?—I think, upon the whole, there are generally more than two persons at petty sessions.

191. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is not the petty sessions an open court?—It is an open court, in which they meet with a great deal more solemnity, and the business is done with far more care and order, than it is when two justices can meet together anywhere, and make an order.

192. Colonel *Mure.*] Do the irregular proceedings as to persons having five years' residence apply to the Scotch and Irish alone, or occasionally to the English?—Although in England two magistrates may make an order wherever they may happen to be, just in the same way as this order may be made, yet they are obliged to keep depositions, and to furnish depositions to the parties; but some complaint has been made even as to the proceedings of justices in those cases.

193. Have these irregularities in the metropolis, to which you alluded, affected solely the Irish and Scotch, and not the English paupers?—With the English paupers there is this difference, that the depositions are preserved; the clerk to the justices is bound to be prepared to give copies of them, and no doubt the proceedings in the removal of English paupers are done with more ceremony and care than the others.

194. With regard to the fact which you mention, that there have been cases, particularly in the metropolis, where, owing to certain irregular proceedings, persons having a five years' residence have been removed illegally, do those facts of persons having been so removed apply solely to Irish and Scotch, or do they also extend to English paupers?—It is possible that those same irregularities might apply to the English.

195. With regard to the specific fact of such cases having occurred, which I suppose are recorded, are those recorded facts invariably limited to the Scotch and Irish?—There are no doubt irregular orders of removal made, but they are made upon the application of the parish officers, who know the consequences if they themselves obtain such an order of removal to another parish. The justices may, perhaps, act rather ministerially in the matter, although they ought to be judicially; but the parish officers do it at a great risk, because they know that they will have an appeal against them.

196. That is to say, there is a remedy in the one case if the injustice is committed, and not in the other?—Yes.

197. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Is not the difference really this: that in the one case the doubt must turn upon a question with reference to the facts of the case, and

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in the other upon a question with reference to the law of the case?—Two questions have to be raised: one is the fact of residence, that exists in the English case as well as in the Irish, and that may be very doubtful; but in the other case, independently of whether the party has resided five years, he is an Irishman, and the justices say that takes him out of the law.

198. Sir *J. Young.*] You said that the Irish were in the habit of moving from one parish to another frequently?—That is very much their character.

199. The moment a man moves from one parish to another, he loses all the benefit of his five years' residence?—Yes.

200. Supposing he has lived five years in a parish, and moves into another, he has no claim to go back into the parish where he has resided the five years?—No; it is not a settlement.

201. Supposing he were to go back to it after a short interval, he might then be removed from that parish, though he had lived in it five years or more?—Undoubtedly, if the steps which he had taken amounted to an interruption of the residence, which of course is a question of fact and one of some difficulty. That would be the case both with the Irish and with the English.

202. A five years' residence does not in any case give a settlement?—No.

203. Mr. *Dunlop.*] What length of residence gives a settlement to a Scotchman or an Irishman?—No length of residence at all.

204. Sir *G. Grey.*] But may a Scotchman or an Irishman acquire a settlement by the same modes by which an Englishman may acquire one?—The truth is, there is now hardly any mode of acquiring a settlement by a poor man at all.

205. *Chairman.*] Renting a tenement?—Renting a tenement, and purchasing or acquiring an estate.

206. Sir *G. Grey.*] Supposing the mode of acquiring a settlement by hiring and service had existed, and an Irishman had hired himself for a twelvemonth, and had served under that hiring, could he not have obtained a settlement?—Certainly.

207. And would he not have been entitled to claim the benefit of it, if benefit it be?—Certainly.

208. There is no disqualification attaching to an Irishman or a Scotchman in England on obtaining a settlement, which does not also attach to an Englishman?—None whatever.

209. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is a settlement established by the five years' residence in a parish?—No.

210. A pauper cannot be removed from a parish where he has resided five years?—No.

211. If an Irishman have resided for five years in a parish, the law says that he cannot be removed?—As long as he continues in that parish he cannot be removed.

212. If an Irishman have resided in a parish for six years, and he apply for relief, must that relief be given to him?—Yes.

213. Has that six years' residence established a settlement?—No; it has established his irremovability from that parish, as long as he chooses to continue in that parish.

214. Has any person a right to claim relief if that person has not a settlement?—Certainly he is entitled to be relieved whenever he is destitute, and as long as his destitution exists.

215. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Though he had resided in this parish or union only one day?—Though it be only one day.

216. Mr. *Maguire.*] But in case he has no settlement, there is a power of removal, is there not?—There are several qualifications to that proposition.

217. *Chairman.*] When a person has got a settlement, that is a privilege which may descend to his children after him; but his irremovability is a personal privilege to himself; and in either case, if he either has a settlement, or has become irremovable under this Five Years' Act, he cannot be removed from the parish, but must continue to receive relief there as long as he is there and requires it?—Yes.

218. Mr. *Maguire.*] What does residence mean?—Unfortunately that is the precise question asked in one of the last cases that has been decided in the Court of Queen's Bench, in which one of the judges said that he had been trying all his life to find a definition of residence; it is a matter which I cannot define.

219. Does it mean going from one place to another in the parish, or remaining in

in the same house, or tenanting a room, or tenanting a part of a house, or an entire house?—None of those states will vary necessarily the question of residence.

220. Sir *G. Grey.*] Does not residence substantially mean living within the limits of the parish, irrespectively of whether the man owns a house, or whether he occupies a room, or whether he is the inhabitant of another man's house?—So far as that goes, it will be residence; but there is very considerable difficulty besides that, because there is a great deal of residence in which the persons are not actually in the parish; a man may be working in another parish.

221. *Chairman.*] That is a constructive residence?—Yes.

222. Mr. *Maguire.*] Speaking of a residence within the parish, what is such a residence within the parish as will be a bar to removal?—Where a man lives and has his wife and family, generally speaking, that would be the man's residence.

223. Sir *G. Grey.*] Suppose he is a single man?—Then we cannot carry it further than to say, where he actually lives and has his abode.

224. Sir *J. Young.*] Where he sleeps?—Where he usually sleeps is another illustration of it.

225. Mr. *Maguire.*] Would renting a room establish a residence?—No doubt if a man rented a room, and lived in it, it would be a residence.

226. What I distinctly want to know is, what might be pleaded as a bar to removal?—A residence of five years would prevent the party from being removed. Then what is sufficient to be a residence depends upon a great variety of circumstances. In many cases it is perfectly clear. If a man lives in a house, and sleeps in a house, and has his meals there, and his wife and family there, there is no doubt that that is a residence.

227. Would it be established by the renting of two rooms, or a floor, or a house, or would it be all the same?—It would be all the same, whether it was a room, or a floor, or an entire house; the mere extent of occupation does not at all affect the question of residence.

228. Colonel *Mure.*] What is then the precise definition of the privilege of settlement as distinct from the privilege of irremovability?—The only privilege of settlement is, that a man may be removed to a particular parish, and when there, under no circumstances can he be forcibly removed from it by the parish officers.

229. What obtains for him that privilege; birth, or what other circumstance?—There is a series of different modes by which settlements are derived and acquired. If you cannot find out any other place of a man's settlement, the place of his birth will be such; but that is not always easy to be found out.

230. It is not competent to a Scotchman or an Irishman to obtain that privilege under any circumstances?—He cannot obtain a settlement by birth, of course, because the birth would not have taken place in England. A Scotchwoman or an Irishwoman may acquire a settlement by marriage in England, but of course not a Scotchman or an Irishman.

231. A Scotchman or an Irishman, in his individual capacity, cannot obtain a settlement under any circumstances?—Yes, if he rents a house of 10*l.* a year, and pays 10*l.* rent, and admits no lodger into his house. Many persons who are not in the grade of poor persons acquire settlements in England, no doubt, both Scotch and Irish; but the poorer classes, under the present law, can with great difficulty, if ever, acquire settlements now. A Scotch lad, or an Irish lad, might be apprenticed in England undoubtedly, and would probably obtain a settlement by means of the apprenticeship.

232. Sir *G. Grey.*] Has not a Scotchman or an Irishman every means of acquiring a settlement in England, if he has resided in England, an Englishman has, except that of birth?—Yes.

233. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Does the privilege of irremovability, under the 9th & 10th of Victoria, apply to anything beyond the single instance in which the relief is administered. If a person who becomes irremovable in consequence of having resided five years, remains for a certain time in the workhouse, or receives relief for a certain time, and subsequently leaves or ceases to receive relief, does his irremovability remain?—As long as he remains in the same parish his irremovability remains.

234. But it is subject to be broken?—It is subject to be broken by his going into another parish, and that is the great difficulty of the Irish cases. They think

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nothing about that, but remove from St Giles's to St. Luke's and from St. Luke's to St. Giles's.

235. In that respect, it differs very materially from a settlement which, once acquired, is permanent?—Yes.

236. Sir *G. Grey.*] This five years' residence must be uninterrupted?—Yes.

237. Mr. *Maguire.*] Would a seven years' residence in a parish give a settlement?—No; no length of time would give a settlement.

238. *Chairman.*] Neither for Englishmen nor for Irishmen?—Neither for Englishmen nor for Irishmen.

239. Sir *J. Young.*] And you deduct from the five years' residence all that period during which a poor person may be in receipt of parochial relief?—Exactly; and there are certain other periods, which are not interruptions, but they are deductions from the five years.

240. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Would it be, in your opinion, desirable to have the meaning of residence defined?—I believe it is impossible.

241. Residence, to a certain extent, at least, is defined in the Irish poor law?—I think there is an attempt there; but we have said in England that we cannot get a definition of the word.

242. Sir *G. Grey.*] Judges have said so?—Judges have said so, and the House of Commons said so themselves upon this very Removal Act; when it was pressed upon them to define residence, the House of Commons declined to do so.

243. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is not that one of the difficulties which an Irishman, when brought before a magistrate, has to contend against?—I do not think it is a very substantial difficulty, because, although the question itself for me to undertake to give a perfect definition is difficult, and I cannot undertake to give a perfect definition, yet in the great bulk of cases there is really no substantial difficulty in finding whether a person has been residing in a particular place, as far as the term residence may go; the difficulty is as to the accuracy of the testimony concerning the length of time during which a person has been in a particular place.

244. Unless where a county magistrate had to adjudicate?—I do not know that there would be any difference there.

245. Is a parish applying for the removal of a pauper in petty sessions generally represented by a professional man?—No, they very often have only the relieving officer or the removing officer, or the assistant overseer.

246. A very experienced person in those matters, I suppose?—It certainly should be some one who understands his business; he ought to know what case to produce before the magistrate.

247. Mr. *J. Ball.*] The difficulties which arise do not refer to the nature of the residence, but to the interruption of that residence by the casual absence of the person from that parish?—There are difficulties in defining what is a residence itself. There have been a number of cases where questions have come before the courts. A man has deserted his wife and family in a parish, and gone away from it; there is no doubt that he interrupts his residence there; but if a man goes away for the purpose of working at a job, or because he is told that if he goes to a certain place he can obtain work, and he goes to see whether he can obtain it, and he stays away some little time upon the job, that is not an interruption.

248. Difficulties arise upon what is an interruption or not?—Yes.

249. Do the English statutes, or any of them, use the words "usually slept or resided"?—No, the word used in our statute is "resided."

250. Then it has not been held that one or other of these two things includes residence: either the usually sleeping within the parish on the part of the man, or else the residing by his paying for or keeping up a dwelling for himself and his family; there has been no definition of that kind?—No definition of residence has been given at all anywhere. Every court declines defining what a residence is; the decisions have been always given upon the particular facts which are snbmitted to the court. All that we can possibly do is to say whether, upon the facts produced, those facts constitute a residence or not, or an interruption.

251. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is there any difficulty at all in ascertaining the fact whether a pauper has actually lived in a parish, and worked in that parish for five consecutive years?—No.

252. Does not the difficulty arise in the class of cases in which a man is held to be resident though absent?—Yes.

253. Take the case of a sailor, for instance, serving in the Baltic fleet, who may be taken at the same time to be resident in St. Luke's, Middlesex, if his wife and family are living there, and that is his usual place of abode?—Yes, and it would be a question of difficulty as to what the courts would say; we do not know what they will say as to his residing in England when serving in the Fleet. There have been questions as to whether, where a man goes down to the sea side for a visit, that is a residence, or an interruption of residence.

254. Mr. *Maguire.*] Has a question of that kind arisen?—Not with regard to paupers, but other persons.

255. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is there any real practical difficulty in a magistrate adjudicating upon the simple case of an Irish or Scotch pauper, or an English pauper, having lived and worked in the parish of St. Luke, Middlesex, for five years, and having had his home there the whole time?—That would be a very plain case; there is no difficulty in the justices dealing with that.

256. *Chairman.*] With regard to Scotland, I believe the statute which regulates the subject is the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83?—It is so.

257. With regard to that matter, you do not wish to give the Committee any information?—I omitted bringing the statute with me, and do not wish to say anything, except that there is an important difference between the Scotch and English law; because five years' residence in Scotland confers a settlement, and if a man has resided five years in any parish in Scotland he cannot be removed then to England, so long as he retains that settlement; but if he has not resided five years, he can be removed to England, or to Ireland, by an order of the sheriff. If he has resided five years in any place in Scotland, he must be removed then, not to England, but to the place in which he has so resided five years, and has not lost his settlement therein. That is the provision in the Scotch law applicable to removal.

258. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Is not there this difference between the law of the two countries in reference to irremovability: that in Scotland the 8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, provides that the justices shall "examine such person on oath touching the place of his birth or last legal settlement, and take such other evidence or other measures as they may deem necessary for ascertaining whether he has gained a settlement"?—Yes.

259. Those words are not, I believe, in the English statute?—Not exactly; but it is necessary in England to see that the man has not obtained a settlement here: the same question is pretty nearly involved in both Acts.

260. Does not the Scotch Act specifically direct that they shall examine such person, and ascertain whether such person has or has not gained a legal settlement?—That is true in the Scotch Act; but I think that is involved in the English Act, because the justices are to see that the person has been born in that place; that he has not gained a settlement in England.

261. I understood you to say some time ago that if the question was put by the justices in England to a pauper, "Were you born in Ireland?" and the pauper answered, "I was," and it subsequently appeared that the person had become chargeable in the union, such person would be removable according to the construction of the law in England, without proof that such person had not obtained a settlement?—No; I must have been misunderstood about that. The examination which the man has to sign is not only that he was born in Ireland, but it goes on to say that he "hath no settlement in England."

262. The occasion upon which I understood you to give that answer, was when the case was put to you of a person refusing to sign it?—It is no doubt then necessary, if the justices think fit to make that order, that the justices should ascertain that the party was born in Ireland, and also that he has no settlement in England. All I meant to imply was, that the justices came to their determination very readily, seeing it is so difficult for an Irishman to obtain a settlement in England. I think it should be known that the Scotch provision has a little advantage over the English provision, because it is made part of the provision in the Scotch Act that the magistrates shall see that the parties are in a fit state to be removed, with reference to the state of their health, and that they are not to be removed if the parties are not in a good condition; no doubt that is implied in the provision in our Act of Parliament, which leaves it discretionary with the justices to make the order, but it is not so specifically brought under their notice as it is in the Scotch Act.

263. Colonel *Mure.*] When an English pauper is removed from Scotland, is he

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he to be removed to the parish of his settlement in England?—No; only to England.

264. Only to the frontier?—Only to the frontier.

265. When he arrives at the frontier, that not being his settlement, is the parish in which he is deposited bound to pass him on to the other parish?—That they may do; they will pass him pretty readily, if they can.

266. Sir *B. Hall.*] You have spoken of the conduct of magistrates in the metropolis, or in the county of Middlesex, in giving orders of removal; do you wish the Committee to infer, that the conduct pursued by those justices in the metropolitan district is different from that which is usually adopted by other justices throughout England?—No, I have no knowledge as to that; the matter has been brought under my notice by complaints in the metropolis; I have no reason to suppose that their conduct differs from that of justices elsewhere. But the position of the parties is very materially different, inasmuch as the police magistrates in the metropolis could make these orders, whereas in a great portion of the country there is no other person to make the order but the county magistrates. Here the orders may be obtained from the police courts, or from the county magistrates; in most parts of the country they can only be obtained from the county magistrates, and I do not know that there is any difference between the course of proceeding that would be pursued by most justices; but I draw this inference as to the difference in the metropolis, from its having been complained that police magistrates are not applied to for the purpose of these orders, but the county magistrates are applied to.

267. In the metropolis, I believe, a police magistrate has the power of two magistrates?—He has.

268. Therefore he might do those acts which it requires two magistrates to do in other places?—Yes.

269. Sir *G. Grey.*] Does a police magistrate always do those acts in open court?—Always; I believe there is no case where a police magistrate does any business, except in open court.

270. Do you wish us to infer, from your recent answers, that you have any reason to believe that the magistrates throughout England act upon the doubt suggested, as you say, by some ingenious counsel, of the inapplicability of the Poor Removal Act to Scotch and Irish paupers?—I have reason to suppose that until very recently it was a very prevalent notion in the country that the Poor Removal Act did not apply to Irish and Scotch. In one case to which I have referred, where the question was to be tried upon appeal, the order had been made by two county magistrates in the north of England.

271. What county?—The West Riding, I believe.

272. Mr. *Maguire.*] The power exists in any justice, no matter whether there is a stipendiary magistrate in the place or not?—Certainly.

273. And the parish authorities may at any time practically ignore the stipendiary magistrate?—They may do so. I believe the regulations are the same with the stipendiary magistrate everywhere.

274. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are the Committee to understand from the answers which you have given, that the alterations suggested in the law are those which you consider advisable if the removal system between England and Scotland and Ireland obtains, or are we to understand that you give any opinion on the desirability of maintaining that system?—I am assuming the system of removal to continue, and I then suggest that this Act of Parliament is defective, and should be altered in those respects.

275. We are not to understand that you think it desirable that it should continue?—I have not been asked my opinion upon that subject.

276. Mr. *Maguire.*] By the 6th section of the 8th & 9th Victoria, what I may now call the English Poor-law Commissioners who were then acting for both countries, have the power of sanctioning or not sanctioning an appeal by Irish guardians?—Yes.

277. In point of fact, has there been any appeal during the time that they have had the power of sanctioning it or not?—Only one.

278. How does the law stand now; is it the Irish Poor-law Commissioners who have the power of sanctioning it?—No, the English.

279. Has there not been any amendment of that section?—No.

280. Then though there is an Irish Poor-law Board at the present moment, the option of appeal or non-appeal on the part of an Irish Board of Guardians,

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or the sanction of it, remains with those who are now specially an English Board?—That is so. It arises in this way: under 10 & 11 Vict. c. 109, by which the English Poor-law Board was constituted, all power vested in the Poor-law Commissioners was transferred to what we now call commonly the Poor-law Board.

281. Sir *G. Grey.*] I think you stated that as one of the objections to that appeal clause under the present law?—Yes. I think it is an objection to have the Poor-law Commissioners in England, it may be to have the Poor-law Commissioners in Ireland, brought forward at all; but still more for the Poor-law Board to be brought forward.

282. Mr. *Maguire.*] In point of fact, there has been but one appeal, so that, from one cause or another, that section has been a dead letter?—Just so.

283. How was that one appeal decided?—It failed, because the time that was occupied in the correspondence between England and Ireland was so great, that the notice of appeal turned out to have been served at too short a period; the notice was held to be one day too short; the consequence was, the dismissal of the appeal.

284. That objection would exist at the present moment as then, would it not?—Exactly; but we should endeavour to prevent it as far as possible, by endeavouring to avoid the delay which took place in those proceedings.

285. Where the correspondence was protracted the same result would happen?—It would.

286. Can you give the Committee an idea what is the average expense of a moderately protracted appeal; an appeal, say, from the guardians of a northern county in England against a midland parish here?—It is quite impossible to give an estimate at all, because it must be ascertained what it is that is to be put in issue. There might be a plain matter of fact, which one witness might prove, in Northumberland, on an appeal from Cornwall, and it might altogether cost a very moderate sum; there might be an appeal between the same parties, requiring various witnesses who would have to travel from Cornwall to Northumberland. Then how can it be stated what would be the cost of all that?

287. The further removed the litigating parties are, the greater the expense would necessarily be?—No, that does not necessarily follow; because, the question at issue might wholly arise in the county of Northumberland. The simple point at issue might arise, and all the evidence of facts might arise in the particular county where the appeal was to be tried, although the appellant might be at a very remote part. It is no more possible for me to say how much would be the average cost of an appeal, than that of any trial that takes place at the assizes.

288. Did you ever hear of a litigation between two parishes with reference to the removal of one pauper costing 100 *l.*?—Certainly. I have had bills relative to parish appeals under my notice, in which the costs have been far more than 100 *l.*

289. What were they?—At this moment I can remember a case in which the costs were 350 *l.*

290. Would you be surprised if an appeal cost 50 *l.* That would be rather a moderate expenditure, would it not?—Sometimes appeals are tried at the quarter sessions between neighbouring parishes, and then I do not think they need cost so much. I suppose an appeal between neighbouring parishes might be tried at the sessions for 20 *l.* a side, but it is altogether perfectly vague. I am hardly able to express any opinion which would be at all fit to be put on paper.

291. I distinctly understand that you cannot be bound to accuracy upon the point; it is quite impossible that you should be; but I want to have an idea from you as to the probable expense of an appeal. You say between neighbouring parishes it might average 20 *l.* a side?—Yes; or it might be a great deal more; it is very difficult to say. Supposing, for instance, the matter at issue required an attorney to be brought from some distance, he would want a considerable amount to be paid for his attendance as a witness. On the other hand, the only witness might be a farmer, who would be satisfied with a few shillings. Take a case arising out of the Removal Act: it probably would be necessary to take down on one side the pauper and three or four witnesses from some parish in London; it might be necessary to take them to some considerable distance.

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292. In point of fact, in nine years there never has been but one appeal?—That is all.

293. And that failed from the cause which you have spoken of; is not the whole law on the question of settlement about as complicated as any law in the statute books, or in the cases?—I do not think the law of settlement is very complicated now.

294. Are not the decisions on it very varied and conflicting?—There have been a great many decisions on that subject; the law has been made a great deal by the courts, and there have been various statutes upon which there have been a great number of questions of construction, but I think they are all pretty well settled now. The difficulties for the most part arise upon questions of fact.

295. Have cases of this kind come to your knowledge, that parishes have forborne the assertion of their right because of the expense incurred in litigation, and of the mere chance that they would have as to a favourable result?—Certainly; parishes frequently say that they will not go to the expense of either an order of removal or an appeal.

296. They are as much influenced by the expense incurred, as by the uncertainty of the law to which they have to appeal?—It is generally the question of expense, I think; but perhaps it is somewhat affected by the uncertainty of what the result may be, whether in point of law or in point of fact.

297. You say that in nine years there never has been an appeal from Ireland. Since 1845, the date of the passing of the 8 & 9 Victoria, is there any record of communications from Irish Boards of Guardians to the Poor-law Board, considering themselves aggrieved?—Certainly, a great many cases of complaints have occurred; I think that those communications have been presented to the House.

298. Does that embrace the entire time; does it give the number of distinct facts of complaints which have been made since the passing of the Act in 1845? Yes, I think it does.

299. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] There is one clause to which I wish to invite your attention, the 6th clause of the 9 & 10 Vict., c. 66, which provides that there shall be a penalty imposed upon officers of a parish or union who shall cause persons to be conveyed from one parish to another, in which they are not otherwise chargeable?—Yes.

300. Has the operation of that clause come under your notice?—Certainly.

301. Is that a clause which is frequently brought into action?—It is, not unfrequently; there have been several cases of convictions under it. It is certainly a clause which I believe by no means inoperative.

302. *Chairman.*] Would that clause apply to the case of the wrongful removal of any poor person to Ireland who had become chargeable to any parish?—I am not sure whether the Irish could be brought within it; it is peculiarly framed; it is, "with intent to cause any poor person to become chargeable to any parish." Now that intent could never exist with regard to an Irish pauper, because the overseer or officer would only want to get rid of him from England.

303. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Does the evil which that is intended to prevent operate extensively in fact, as between one parish and another?—There have been a good many complaints, undoubtedly, and convictions; and where they have been officers under the control of the Poor-law Board, the Board have animadverted upon their conduct with more or less severity, as the case has required.

304. Has that occurred frequently?—There have not been a great many cases of complaints against such officers; there are more against the overseers, or assistant overseers, some of whom have been found guilty. But the clause does not go far enough.

305. Sir *G. Grey.*] Have there not been many cases in which attempts have been made to induce paupers to break the five years' residence in order to prevent their becoming irremovable?—There are many cases stated, but there is a great difficulty in establishing the exact facts.

306. *Chairman.*] There have been many complaints of that kind?—Yes.

307. Mr. *Maguire.*] Where an English pauper is removed you say a record of the transaction is kept?—There are the depositions which are kept; but, for the most part, the proceedings of magistrates at their own rooms in their own dwellings are seldom in that strict order, that we can very well talk about records of their transactions.

308. They are obliged to take depositions, are they not?—They ought to do so.

309. Where a pauper is removed from one parish to another, in England, are they not obliged to give to the parish to which the pauper is removed a copy of such depositions?—Their clerk is.

310. It is given?—Yes.

311. But in the Irish case there is no such thing?—No.

312. There is not the same formality?—No.

313. Those who act in the Irish case do not act under the same sense of responsibility as they do in the English case?—I do not like to say anything about what sense of responsibility they may themselves entertain; but the habit and practice of business is not so formal.

314. Have there been many appeals from parishes in England within the last 12 months or two years?—I cannot answer that question at all.

315. Have there been 10?—I suppose so; a great many more.

316. *Chairman.*] You have no record at the Poor-law Board of those cases?—No.

317. Mr. *Maguire.*] As far as you can say, have there been several?—There can be no doubt of it; but there are no great number, probably, tried now.

318. There has been no appeal from Ireland since the Act came into force for nine years?—Certainly not.

319. And have there not been hundreds of appeals in English cases in that time?—Yes, because the machinery is so different; the proceeding is different, and the facilities are greater.

320. Sir *G. Grey.*] You have stated that you think that appeal clause very defective, on the very grounds which have been now referred to?—Certainly.

321. And you have suggested, I think, amendments, with a view to remove those defects?—The Board of Guardians in Ireland might just as well have the right of appeal, as the parish officers have in this country; there is no reason why they might not have that power of appeal given to them.

322. Mr. *Maguire.*] If the Poor-law Board saw a just case for appeal, would they not feel themselves coerced, not only to sanction that appeal, but to urge that appeal?—I can hardly answer that question; it is a matter which would depend upon the exercise of their discretion in the particular case.

323. The law says that the Board of Guardians in Ireland shall give good security for the entire costs; what is the practical meaning of that? Suppose, for a moment, that an Irish Board of Guardians conceive themselves wronged, and desire to appeal, and they endeavour to satisfy themselves as to the facts, and write to the Poor-law Board here upon it, and the matter is in regular train for inquiry, and suppose the Poor-law Board sanction it, what is the meaning of the payment of the entire costs; what would be demanded by the Poor-law Board?—The Poor-law Board have had to consider what was necessary to be done in that way, and they have thought that the only course which was practicable was to require the deposit of a sum of money in London in the hands of some banker made by the guardians, as a security against the costs.

324. Suppose the Limerick Board of Guardians conceive that a pauper has been sent to them who had no right to be sent to them; in that case what sum of money would be demanded to be lodged?—What the Board would do would be to consider what was the nature of the case likely to be established; what would be the probability as to the costs to be incurred in prosecuting the appeal; they would come to an estimate, and request the amount to be deposited according to that estimate. In a case which they did enter upon, the amount required was 100 *l.*

325. Was it a very complicated case?—It was not a very complicated case; as far as was known, the Board expected to have to bring several witnesses from Dublin; the principal witness was at Dublin, and the person removed would have had to be brought from Dublin; in point of fact, she was brought.

326. The costs would be likely to increase according to the distance; Dublin being very near?—Yes; it might be necessary to bring witnesses from a distant part.

327. Are you competent to give an answer to this question: What is the average cost of maintaining a pauper in this country; in London, or in Liverpool, or in Manchester; have you any idea?—It involves several considerations. There is no difficulty in giving an answer, taking the average. It varies in

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different parts of the country very much. The first question is, as to whether it is to be in-door relief or out-door relief.

328. Say in-door relief?—Taking the whole of England, I should think that the average cost, in-door, is something about 3 *s.* per head per week. There is no doubt that in many places it is far higher; and in many places and unions it is much lower; but I think, taking the whole, I should be safe in saying that the average for the maintenance of an in-door pauper at this time, would be about 3 *s.* per head per week.

329. Sir *J. Young.*] Does that include the clothing as well as the provisions and necessaries?—It would include clothing and provisions, but it would not include what are commonly called the establishment charges; namely, the cost of what we might add as lodging, or as attendance.

330. Mr. *Maguire.*] How much would 3*s.* a-week be a year; about 7*l* 10*s.*?—For a person remaining the whole year, it would be about that. But at the same time it must be remembered that this is taken as the estimate of the whole of England; in many parts it would be very much more.

331. What would it be in London?—I should think in London it is not less than 5*s.* a head, and in some places, perhaps, even more; and this is taking them as being ordinary paupers, not sick.

332. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you include children in that estimate?—Yes; I take the whole. We are obliged, in taking an estimate of this kind, to take the young, and the old, and the able-bodied all together.

333. Mr. *Maguire.*] Can you tell me distinctly the several means of establishing a settlement; birth is one?—Birth, marriage, estate, renting a tenement.

334. Servitude?—Hiring and service. This is not in force now, but it may be available in courts of law at the present moment.

335. *Chairman.*] Apprenticeship, payment of taxes?—And serving a public parochial office. It must be stated that some of these are not now available for acquiring a fresh settlement.

336. Sir *J. Young.*] They are not available prospectively?—They are not available now for obtaining settlements.

337. Sir *G. Grey.*] But settlements may be claimed by persons now living under any of those heads?—They may.

338. Mr. *Maguire.*] Could a person who had been born in this country, and who had lived in this country for 16 years, be legally removed to Ireland?—If it were the case of the child of an Irishman, and the Irishman were removed, then the child, although 16 years of age and born in England, might be removed with its parent.

339. Supposing the father had died in England, and both father and mother had lived a sufficient time in England, could he be removed; suppose the father had resided for 20 years in England?—If the father acquires the status, as it is termed, of irremovability, the child is entitled to the same status of irremovability, until the age of 21 at least; whether after that, I will not say. If the father has acquired the status of irremovability, that is to say, if the father cannot be removed, the child is by express enactment entitled to the same irremovability as the parent possesses until the child reaches 21.

340. Supposing the father had not been removed, but had lived for a certain time in England, and had died in England, and his son had been born in England, and lived in England for 16 years, would that child be liable to be removed to Ireland?—No; that child would be removed to the parish of his settlement in England, because the child, having been born in England, would have acquired a settlement in England; that has been decided expressly.

341. Even though the father had no settlement in England?—Exactly. A person may acquire a settlement by birth in England, though his father was a foreigner or an Irishman.

342. Sir *G. Grey.*] You have stated that a child 16 years old, still forming part of the father's family, may be removed with the father if the father is removed; suppose that child grows up and becomes what is called in law emancipated, having been born in England of an Irish or Scotch parent, can that person be removed as an Irishman or Scotchman?—With the parent?

343. Without the parent?—No, that person has been born in England.

344. Of an Irish or Scotch parent?—That would be immaterial.

345. Does he not acquire a settlement in England by his birth, quite irrespective of

of his parentage?—Yes, but that child might have a settlement in England, and be removed with the father so long as he continued a child, if the father were removed. *W. G. Lumley, Esq.* 11 May 1854.

346. But I am speaking of him after he ceases to be a child, and after he becomes a man?—Then he could not be removed to Ireland.

347. Mr. *Maguire.*] I am speaking of a specific case, and what I want particularly to understand is this: could a boy of 16 years of age, who had been born in this country, but whose father had died in this country, be legally removed?—Not to Ireland; he would be removed to the place of his birth in England, it being the place of his settlement in England. That child might however have acquired an irremovability, and then that child would be entitled to be relieved in the parish where he was destitute.

348. *Chairman.*] He would not be removable to Ireland?—He would not be removable to Ireland.

349. Mr. *Maguire.*] I am speaking of the state of things before the 9th & 10th of Victoria; under the circumstances which I state could he be legally removed?—No; he would have a settlement in this country.

350. By birth?—By birth. Probably I may carry the proposition a little further. It has been decided that, where an Irishman had deserted his children, those children having been born in England, they were not removable to Ireland, but they were removable to the parish of their settlement in England; their birth settlement. If the father had been living with them they would have been all removed together to Ireland, but as he had deserted them they were held to be removable to the parish of their settlement in England, which was the place of their birth.

Lunæ, 15° *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Colonel Mure.
Sir George Grey.	Mr. Cumming Bruce.
Sir John Trollope.	Sir John Young.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Mr. Liddell.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Maguire.
Colonel Blair.	

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Alfred Power, Esq., called in; and Examined.

351. *Chairman.*] YOU are Chief Commissioner of the Poor Law in Ireland?—I am. *A. Power, Esq.* 15 May 1854.

352. How long have you held that office?—Since May 1849.

353. You were connected with the Board, I believe, before that time?—I was.

354. In what office?—As Assistant Commissioner previously under the existing Commission, and before that as Assistant Commissioner under a delegation of powers from the Poor Law Commission in England: on the whole for 11 years.

355. Before that, I believe, you were connected with the Poor Law Board in England?—I was.

356. You were an Assistant Commissioner?—I was for about nine years before I went to Ireland.

357. Was that from the very origin of the English Commission?—From the beginning of the English Commission in 1834.

358. Will you mention what districts you had under your charge in this country?—I had first Cambridgeshire, Essex, and part of Hertfordshire; I was then moved, and had a great part of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and the whole of Lancashire, and from that district I went to Herefordshire; I had a large district latterly, consisting of 70 unions, in that part of England.

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359. You were for some time in the great manufacturing districts?—I was.

360. For how long?—I think for about two or three years.

361. Have you prepared yourself to give information to the Committee upon the subject of their present inquiries?—I have done so.

362. You are aware that that comprises the operation of the law of removal from England of Irish and Scotch paupers, and from Scotland of English and Irish paupers?—I am.

363. Have you any observation to make, in the first place, with regard to the position of the Irish Poor-law Commissioners with respect to questions of this kind?—Yes. I wish to explain to the Committee in what way our office has become the depository of a very large mass of correspondence connected with this subject. Whenever a Board of Guardians in Ireland feel aggrieved by the removal of a person from England or Scotland, they lodge the complaint with us; that complaint generally consists of the statement derived from the pauper; sometimes it is made on a misunderstanding of the law; then we explain that, and there is an end of it; but if the statement of the pauper gives a *primâ facie* case of any impropriety on the part of the authorities in England, we make inquiry upon oath by an inspector, for the purpose of communicating the facts as they have been known in Ireland to the Poor Law Board in England. By those means we very often obtain explanations which show that the authorities in England were perfectly justified; sometimes not. The Commission in Ireland has no function at all under the Act. Our responsibility is to obtain from the guardians all the information we can, and to advise them as far as we can as to the course which they ought to take; but we have no power to insist upon their taking any particular course, nor is our consent required to anything that the guardians may think proper to do. We have become, under these circumstances, acquainted with a great mass of details regarding cases of removal, the whole of which is contained in the Return made lately to the House by order of the House of Commons.

364. You have had an opportunity of going over that correspondence, have you not?—I have been acquainted with it as it arose from time to time; my impressions regarding it are principally those derived from my acquaintance with it from time to time, as the cases arose. Since the return was ordered, or rather since the Committee was determined upon, I have not had an opportunity of referring to much of the correspondence; the papers have been in hand for the purpose of copying. The return is so voluminous that, in fact, I have not had time to read over again any more than what appeared to me a select portion of the correspondence relating to cases which I might wish to bring before the Committee, or cases which it was very probable might be touched upon in my examination. Therefore I cannot profess to be acquainted with all the details of that correspondence, or to remember them.

365. That correspondence relates, I presume, partly to removals from England and partly to removals from Scotland?—It does.

366. Are you desirous of stating to the Committee any general impression which you have derived from that correspondence?—Yes.

367. Mr. *Liddell.*] Is this correspondence from all parts of England?—Yes; it is very bulky. I have here an index of the papers, and the first point on which I would observe in regard to it, is that it continues to go on; that although it was heavier, of course, during the famine, and while the Act was not so well understood as it is now, yet still a very considerable amount of correspondence continues, on cases arising from day to day; both removals from England and removals from Scotland. I have not compared the amount in successive years.

368. *Chairman.*] You were about to state a general impression which you had derived from the perusal of that correspondence?—Yes; I will state to the Committee my general impressions from the correspondence. In the first place, I think there can be no doubt that a great degree of discontent and of angry feeling is caused in the Boards of Guardians and rate-payers in Ireland, by the operation of the present law, and that that feeling results in a disposition to impute blame to the authorities in England in the administration of the law, on the two grounds of hardship to the persons removed and injustice to Irish rate-payers. My own impression about that is this, that there is a good deal of hardship to the persons removed, and a good deal of injustice to Ireland as a rate-paying country; but I think that that is to be laid at the door, not of the authorities administering the law in England, but of the provisions of the Act itself.

369. You mean that the removals are generally warrantable in point of law?—Generally. There were, soon after the passing of the Act, many cases of irregularity, and perhaps of real impropriety.

370. What Act are you now speaking of; the 8 & 9 Victoria?—I am speaking of the existing Act.

371. The 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, is the one relating to England, and c. 83 to Scotland; they are in the same year?—Yes, they were passed in the same year, 1845; just before the famine.

372. You say that shortly after the passing of that Act there were a number of cases which you thought not warrantable in point of law?—There have been throughout occasional departures from propriety, certainly.

373. Do you mean by propriety, legal propriety?—I should say there have been cases where sufficient care has not been taken by the authorities sending the parties over, in providing them adequately, and other cases of illegality of removal.

374. Illegality in the original removal?—Yes.

375. Removing persons who were not really liable to be removed?—Just so; I think that at the present time, generally speaking, when inquiry has been made in England or in Scotland, it has been found that the authorities have been justified in their proceedings; I think that as a general rule, though not without some exceptions even at the present time, they have been within the law, I therefore say that such hardship and such injustice as does arise is imputable chiefly to the provisions of the law itself, and not to the authorities administering it either in England or in Scotland.

376. Will you state to the Committee in what respects you consider the law to be objectionable?—First with regard to the persons removed, the descriptions of hardship which arise are these: the first thing is the separation from connexions of long standing in England in many cases; the irremovability after five years' residence does not operate to protect a man who has been in England, perhaps the greater part of his life, 30 or 40 years of his life; he has changed his residence and gets into another parish, and that parish will remove him; he gets separated from connexions, married daughters, sons, and others in England, and that frequently appears. Again, the wife and the child are separated from the husband and parent by this removal; in cases where the English authorities consider that there is a desertion they are removable; but very often they turn out to be cases, according to the pauper's statement, in which it has been a temporary absence merely of the husband or the parent, and that class of cases has excited a great deal of feeling and sympathy in the Boards of Guardians in Ireland. That is one point in which I think a considerable amount of hardship is inflicted without any departure from the provisions of the law by the authorities removing; they are cases in which they are perfectly justifiable in their proceedings.

377. I suppose your impressions, in a great many of those cases, must be derived from the statements of the paupers themselves?—It is principally so, because we do not send complaints of that kind over the water for inquiry. We see that it is a natural course in the operation of the law.

378. Mr. *Liddell.*] Will you explain that point a little more clearly. Suppose this case, that a man left his wife and children for a certain time to seek work in another part of the country, such as at harvest, and was absent for a certain number of months, and ultimately returned, would that absence be taken as an exception to his right of claiming settlement?—If it appears to the parish authorities that he has abandoned his wife or his family, they frequently do remove, and I apprehend they are justified in such cases, in the absence of the husband, in removing an Irish-born woman to Ireland, or an Irish-born child.

379. They would be justified in that case?—They are justified by the law.

380. Is it your opinion that they ought not upon any account to be justified in such a removal?—It is in their discretion, and I think many parish authorities would not remove under those circumstances, but it is left in their discretion by the law.

381. The difficulty seems to be for the parish officers to decide whether it is a case of desertion, or whether it is simply a case of temporary relinquishment for the purpose of coming back bettered in his circumstances?—I believe that there is no necessity for it to be proved that it is a desertion; it is a matter of opinion merely, and you act upon mere opinion in such a case as that; there is no necessity

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for a conviction for having deserted, and, I believe, under this law, it is perfectly legal to remove without one.

382. Do you believe that, in reality, a great many cases are existing, sufficient for you to notice them before this Committee, of removals having taken place under such circumstances as that?—So far as we can judge by the statements of the parties removed, there are cases of that sort undoubtedly.

383. You must be well aware that those statements are not always to be relied upon?—I am quite aware of it.

384. Mr. *J. Ball.*] But those statements are frequently upon oath where you have instituted an inquiry in respect of it?—Yes, they are upon oath.

385. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed with your statement of the points in which you think the present law objectionable?—The next point in which I think a great deal of hardship and suffering occurs to the party removed relates to the deck passage from the English port to Ireland, especially when the removal is to a distant port in Ireland. The weather is tempestuous, that is of course accidental; they often come after convalescence from illness and in a very bad state of clothing; and the exposure to a deck passage has often resulted in very great suffering, more than we know of; cases have come to our knowledge where death has been caused by it, though, perhaps, we do not hear of many other cases.

386. Mr. *Liddell.*] Can you include those in the consideration of the question of poor law removal?—Those cases are within the law, like the others; the authorities are justified in those cases by the law.

387. Sir *B. Hall.*] You say that one of the grievances complained of is, that when they are removed, they are removed as deck passengers; do you apprehend that that class of passengers go over to England in any other way than as deck passengers?—No, they do not.

388. Mr. *J. Ball.*] But in coming over to England they select their own time, whereas in returning to Ireland they are sent whenever it suits the arrangement of the local authorities, and they are sent to places from which they may not have originally proceeded?—They are so, and the officer sent in charge of them to Liverpool, the conductor, as he is generally called, under the regulations, would not detain them in case of severe weather; he would hardly be justified in detaining them.

389. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed to the next point in which you consider the present law objectionable?—The next point in which hardship and suffering arises, and the last which I shall mention upon that subject, is the non-delivery of the person when landed to some poor-law authority in Ireland.

390. When disembarked?—When disembarked; that I believe to be very operative in producing hardship and suffering to the persons landed.

391. What is the present arrangement as to the delivery of persons when they arrive?—They are set on shore by the captain of the steamer, and that is all; it is to be presumed they are destitute persons; we may presume that fairly in all cases; they are set on shore, and that is the whole delivery of those persons to Ireland.

392. Does he deliver them to any authority, or is a receipt of any kind taken as an acknowledgment?—Not to any authority, nor is there the transmission of any document; there is no duplicate of the warrant, nor any communication whatever with any poor-law authority in Ireland.

393. Is this the case both with regard to those who come from England and those who come from Scotland?—Both. I think that under the Scotch Act they have discovered this to be defective of late, and I think that they do sometimes send over a person with the pauper to take him to the place of birth; persons have sometimes been sent from the English port to the Irish port in charge, but that is not often the case; the general course is, for the conductor to leave them in charge of the captain of the steamer at the English port, to take his receipt for the passage and to give him the warrant; the warrant is given to the captain, and remains with the captain, and the pauper is set on shore, and left either to find his way to his place of birth, which is, I think, what they generally do, without applying for relief in the port, or to find out that there are the means of obtaining relief in the port; many of them, perhaps, may not know that. That seems to me extremely unsatisfactory, if we are to consider this removal a part of the poor law. But it has about it, as it seems to me, rather a penal character than a poor-law character. No doubt, in the first instance, and before the passing of Sturges Bourne's Act, this was part of the punishment of an Irish rogue

rogue and vagabond; he was put into prison, whipped, and then sent over to his own country. In Sturges Bourne's Act you first had incorporated with the poor law a part of that punishment; that is, the deportation to the shore of Ireland, the party being then not a rogue and vagabond, but being an Irishman, and destitute and applying for relief.

394. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know, of your own knowledge, that there is an arrangement by which the person having charge of a pauper, sent from Scotland to Ireland, is compelled, or does as a matter of practice, take that pauper to his or her birthplace?—I have said already, that I believe that is the case in Scotch cases. I do not know that it is always done; certainly not always.

395. Have you had any official knowledge of it?—I have mentioned that there are such cases; that with regard to the Scotch law, a person is sent over sometimes from Scotland.

396. As a matter of fact, do you know whether they are treated in the very same way when sent from Scotland as when sent from England?—No.

397. *Chairman.*] What becomes of the order of removal and the other documents, if there are any, under which the removal originally takes place; will you just trace them from the first; you know the practice in England, having been in England yourself?—Yes.

398. They are given, I suppose, to the officer who has the pauper in charge; does he take them with him to the captain of the vessel?—Yes, it is a warrant; and the delivery of that warrant to the captain makes him a constable, I believe, for the purpose of the charge of the parties; he retains that. I believe that there are cases in which those warrants have been found in the hands of the paupers; when they have applied for relief, they have had them in their possession; I see that sometimes upon the correspondence; in a very few cases I have observed it, but generally the captain retains that document. The pauper does not ask for it.

399. There is no handing it over to any authority in Ireland?—No, it is not at all provided for by the law, nor is it ever done. It is one of the difficulties which we have in putting forward an appeal, that we do not know the names of the authorities who applied for the warrant, who sent the party over, or anything about the circumstances, and the pauper can give us very little account of that; great confusion arises from the want of that knowledge.

400. In the point which you have now mentioned there is a difference, I believe, in the English practice in the removal of a pauper from parish to parish?—It is distinguished from the English practice in a material and most important degree. I think it is a most inexcusable omission, looking at it as a poor law, with regard to destitute persons, that they should not be delivered over as they are to the receiving authority in England.

401. In the case of a parochial removal?—In the case of a removal.

402. In Ireland there is no handing over?—There is no delivery over. I was observing that it looks very like criminal law, and the history of that part of it is penal; it is a remnant of the old law of vagrancy. And there is another mark of criminal law about it, which is, that in Sturges Bourne's Act, which first embodied this removal of Irish paupers in the poor-law system, the expense remained chargeable, as before, to the county, and not to the parish. There was another consolidating Act passed, namely, the 3 & 4 Will. 4; still it remained chargeable to the county; and to this day, although it has been altered with regard to parishes in union, and to parishes of more than 30,000 inhabitants, yet in all other cases the expense is still chargeable to the county at large, and not to the parish removing, so that it appears to be an operation not for the benefit of the parish, but the county. The law seems to imply that it is not for the benefit of the parish removing, but for the benefit of the county at large, to be rid of an objectionable subject.

403. Has nothing been done by the regulations which there is a power in the justices to make, which has the effect of obviating this hardship of which you have now been speaking?—There is nothing done by the regulations to remedy that defect in the law which I have last mentioned; there is very little in any of the regulations that I have seen which touches any of those points which I have mentioned. I think that some of the regulations point out that there ought to be an allowance given to the paupers of money and food, but they merely prescribe a maximum. I think, probably, it was not considered within the power of the regulating justices to say how much parish officers should give

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to a pauper under those circumstances, but in some of the Lancashire regulations they lay down a maximum as to the amount. The regulations also provide for a conductor; they provide for the transmission at once without detention (which is very proper) of the pauper, when the warrant has been obtained; but that does not serve him in tempestuous weather; it aggravates that source of hardship.

404. Is there any particular case in which the present state of the law has been called specially to your attention, to which you wish to refer?—Another point with regard to the regulations is, that there is a want of stringency in the Act, when those regulations are disregarded; in a great many cases they have been disregarded, and there does not appear to be any mode of dealing with the unpaid authorities. With regard to the paid officers of the Poor Law, we have obtained, by representation to the Poor Law Board in England, redress where they have misconducted themselves in any part of the proceeding. One remarkable case of that kind which I should like to refer to is the case of the removal of two women, named Holt and Moore, from Great Bolton to North Dublin, which was inquired into by Mr. Austin, the English inspector; and such a series of irregularities and improprieties was never, perhaps, made out. It is No. 264 in the series.

405. When was that?—It was a long time ago; it was in the early part of the operation of the Act, in July 1847. In that case the paid officer was very nearly dismissed, and a lecture was read to the Board of Guardians for neglecting their duty in looking after these removals. I will make no further allusion to the facts of the case than that. The cases which I should wish to lay before the Committee, as illustrating the points which I have mentioned, are, first, a case which is in the correspondence with the Dromore West Union.

406. What is the date of it?—Nineteenth of February 1851 is the date of the first paper (No. 259). It is the case of the removal of Patrick Hopkins, a man of 60, his wife 50 years of age, his eldest son 16, and two other sons of the ages, I think, of 12 and 10 respectively; they were removed from Liverpool to Sligo. It is a long passage, from 24 to 36 hours, I believe, in fair weather, and this was very bad weather; they were landed at Sligo; they did not apply for relief there, but, as the great majority of these people do, at once, and as intimated by the Act of Parliament, they set off to seek their birthplace, which is what is intended, I presume, by the Act directing them to be delivered at the port nearest their birthplace; it is clear that the theory of the Act is that they shall find their way on to their birthplace from the port; these people did so.

407. What port were they landed at?—At Sligo.

408. That is not one of those ports named in the Act of Parliament, is it?—That is not one of the ports mentioned in the Act of Parliament, but with the consent of the pauper you may remove to any other port, so that it is strictly within the law; that point of consent is inserted in the Scotch Act; I am not sure that it is expressly mentioned in the English Act. It is certainly so provided in the regulations of the justices in many instances, approved by the Secretary of State.

409. "And such justices shall in such regulations provide, so far as may be, for the removing of persons born in Ireland and their families to the ports named in the schedule marked (A.) to this Act annexed, which are nearest to the respective places where such persons were born, or have resided, unless where any such person's consent to be removed to any other port or place in Ireland"?—Just so. One point which I have omitted to state is, that this process of seeking their birthplace in Ireland, unless with the means of travelling, is an offence against the law. First of all, to go from one union in Ireland into another for the purpose of obtaining relief there is an offence against our Vagrant Act; again, begging, which is the only means by which these persons do generally find their way to their birthplace, is another offence against the vagrant law, and yet it seems to be the theory of the law that they should seek their birthplace from the port of disembarkation. These persons belonged to Castlebar, in the county of Mayo; they were three days, I believe, begging their way to a place called Skreen, in the Dromore West Union; there they became unable to go on, and remained for two or three days; the priest of the parish called the attention of the relieving officer to them, and the relieving officer at once conveyed them on a car to Ballina Workhouse, a distance of about 30 miles. This took place in the Dromore West Union; but I must explain that there was a workhouse then building at Dromore West,

West, and in the meantime there was an arrangement by which the Ballina Workhouse was made the workhouse for that union. When they arrived at Ballina it was in the middle of the night; fortunately the officer soon after his arrival got them introduced into the workhouse; the man himself, Hopkins, and his eldest son were both in a dying state; Hopkins died; two others, when the report of the inspector was made, were in the infirmary, and the only person who could give an account of their sufferings was the woman. That is a case illustrating by a fatal termination a good deal of suffering. I believe there is a great deal of suffering of that description.

410. Mr. *Maguire.*] What where the circumstances of life of this man; how long was he in England?—He had gone to Liverpool from Castlebar six or eight months only before he was removed back to Ireland, and I think that is almost the only circumstance which I have not already mentioned.

411. *Chairman.*] It was a removal from Liverpool?—On inquiry being made in England, it appeared that the removal had been not from Liverpool parish, but from West Derby Union, which adjoins Liverpool, and in fact embraces part of the suburbs of Liverpool; and it was found that the authorities who had sent this family over (there were five of them) had given them 1 *s.* each in food, and 1 *s.* in money. There was no want of justification on the part of the authorities; we had no ground for complaint; what they gave I presume was a reasonable amount to give these persons; it is a rather more liberal allowance perhaps than is sometimes given; therefore I trace the existence of that case to the provisions of the law itself. There is another point about the case deserving the attention of the Committee; we made a representation; it struck us as illustrating the inapplicability of that law in many points, and we made a representation of the whole circumstances to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, who I believe communicated them to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and we received from the Under Secretary of the Lord Lieutenant a letter with an enclosure, showing that the Poor Law Board in England expressed their opinion of the very unsatisfactory state of the law of removal at that time, and of the law of appeal, a subject which we had also introduced into our statement to the Lord Lieutenant. I have that correspondence here, and perhaps it is a letter of sufficient importance for me to read to the Committee.

412. Has this been laid before Parliament?—No.

413. It is in the correspondence about to be laid before Parliament?—Yes; this is the letter of the Poor Law Board, dated 3 April 1851, No. 261: "Sir, I am directed by the Poor Law Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, and its enclosures, relating to the provisions of the law under which persons born in Ireland, and receiving relief in England, are made removable to the former country. The Board desired me to return herewith the documents which accompanied your letters concerning the case of Andrew M'Donagh (that is another case mentioned in it), "who was removed from York to Dublin in November last, and to state that the Board regret that the appeal against the warrant of removal in that case was not tried, owing partly to a delay which was occasioned by accidents in this office, and partly to some want of diligence on the part of the guardians of the North Dublin Union. With respect to the case of Patrick Hopkins, who was removed with his family from Liverpool to Sligo in February last, the Board will make inquiry into the circumstances. The Board think it right to remark, however, that the present state of the law with reference to the removal of Irish paupers from England, and the appeals against such removals, is very unsatisfactory, and according to the opinion of the Board, requires to be carefully reconsidered."

414. Is there any other case which you wish to specify?—There was a case which, without going into the detail of it, I will mention, it having attracted a great deal of attention in September 1847, very early in the history of the present Act; it was a boy of the name of Michael Duignan, who died on board the "Duchess of Kent" steamer, in transmission as a pauper from Rochdale. Another man, supposed to be a pauper, but his history could never be made out, died at the same time, through partly, I believe, the great overcrowding of the vessel, combined with very inclement weather. The boy was only 12 years of age; he was convalescent from fever, and an inquiry was made about it, by Mr. Austin. I am not aware that in that case there was any impropriety traceable to the authorities in England. I do not know what the result of the inquiry in England was. Of course, on the inquest held in Dublin, there was no

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account excepting of the sufferings of the boy. It was a very cruel case indeed in that respect, but I am not aware that any default was shown. There was great indignation in Dublin upon the subject, and blame was imputed by public voice to the removing authorities; but I think this is one of those cases which may happen without default on the part of the authorities, under the natural operation of the law.

415. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was the boy of delicate health?—The boy was in a state of delicate health. I presume that under the regulations there was a certificate from a medical man that he was fit to take the voyage to Dublin from Liverpool; very likely he was fit; and the captain said, on receiving the paupers on board, that he expected a fair and an ordinary passage of 12 or 14 hours. On the contrary, he was between, I believe, 20 and 30 hours, making a landing in a most stormy and tempestuous night, the deck being crowded with 500 or 600 people on board, together with a quantity of cattle; there was no room, and no possibility of putting this boy anywhere but in some corner of the deck, where it is supposed that he was even trampled upon.

416. *Chairman.*] In that case you say you have no reason to believe that the English authorities had acted illegally?—I believe inquiry was instituted in England; in fact this case did not arise with us. The correspondence will be found in our return, but it did not arise in the ordinary way. I believe that reports in the Irish newspapers had attracted the attention of Mr. Austin in his district.

417. The inspector of the English Poor Law Board?—The inspector of the English Poor Law Board. I believe that he had drawn the attention of the Poor Law Board to the case, and received their instructions to make inquiry into it; at all events, the correspondence with us begins with a letter from Mr. Austin, asking us to obtain for him the depositions before the coroner. We sent him those depositions, and there was a resolution thereupon of the North Dublin Board of Guardians, who took up the matter very warmly, and that is all that our correspondence consists of, and all that I know; what I have been stating is found in the depositions on the cororer's inquest.

418. Will you proceed with your next observation upon the state of the law?—I have not touched yet upon the injustice to Ireland as a rate-paying country. The broad ground is that there is great unfairness regarding persons who have fallen destitute in a locality in England being removed from the locality in which their usefulness has been expended more or less, sometimes for nearly their whole life, to some uncertain and unknown locality in Ireland; the removal, in fact, is to the Irish coast. There is a strong feeling of injustice in that state of the law, which bears more particularly upon the ports at which the parties are landed; and inasmuch as the greater part of the removals in England appear, by a recent return, to be made from Liverpool, the port which suffers most is the port of Dublin, and more particularly the North Dublin Union, because the steamers land their passengers at the North Wall, which is in that union, and a great many of them become chargeable; many find their way, no doubt, without asking for relief in Dublin, to different parts of Ireland, but a very considerable number become chargeable to the North Dublin Union. I obtained a return from the unions containing twelve ports in Ireland; there are only eight named in the statute; that paper I will put in.

419. That is an official paper from your office?—Yes, a return obtained from the ports.

420. Will you state the title of it?—"Number of paupers who became chargeable to the union during the year ending 25th March 1854, on being removed under magistrates' order from England or Scotland; secondly, number of paupers at present receiving relief in the union, who became chargeable at any time up to the present time on their removal from England or Scotland." The second head of inquiry does not relate to paupers under the first head, but to the whole number of persons who now remain chargeable, of all those who have been removed at any time under the existing Act of Parliament.

421. Mr. *C. Bruce.*] What is the number?—The total number in the year ending 25th March 1854 of those who were removed and became chargeable to any of the ports was 1,208; of those 584 became chargeable to the North Dublin Union; 178 to the South Dublin Union; 191 to Belfast; 103 to Cork; 35 to Londonderry; 40 to Waterford; and the numbers are very inconsiderable in the other cases. What I wish particularly to draw attention to is the very small

small number of all who have been removed at any time who remain chargeable to those unions: 327 is the whole number, of which 163 are chargeable to the North Dublin Union; in that respect the hardship is very great on the North Dublin Union: 72 to Cork; 50 to the South Dublin Union, and the others are very inconsiderable. The fact which I wish to mention in connexion with that small number is, that according to the return, obtained in England, there are 4,800 persons removed in one year, and looking to the years of the famine, when there were many more removed than there are now, it must be the residue of a very large number, of probably 20,000 who have been removed over, and 327 seems to me a very small number to remain now chargeable in the whole of the unions of the ports. I have asked but have not obtained the information yet, how many persons are chargeable now in all the unions in Ireland, of the number removed during the whole period.

422. *Chairman.*] Have you the hope of being able to complete that statement?—I hope to be able to put it in. I believe that an extremely small number, out of the number of those removed, are now chargeable in the ports in which they were landed. Then, the reflection which arises out of that is (and in this I am backed by Mr. Crawford, the inspector of the North Dublin Union, with whom I had a conversation upon the point just before I left), that the great bulk of the people removed from England to Ireland, go back to England; they find their way back. A great many of them leave connexions in England, or they have reasons for coming back, of one kind or the other, and they find their way back.

423. Colonel *Blair.*] Do you include Scotland as well?—I am alluding more particularly to England in that respect; we know that they do occasionally go back to Scotland. There will be found, in that return, correspondence to which perhaps I ought to draw the attention of the Committee; complaint has reached us of parties being sent back.

424. *Chairman.*] Sent back from whence?—From Ireland; and there is little doubt, indeed we know that, in one instance at least, a Board of Guardians lent itself to the appropriation of funds for the purpose of sending back paupers to England, who they thought had been improperly removed. That, of course, we are enabled to check. It was done clandestinely on this one occasion. We keep a very tight hand over any expenditure of that sort, and it would be struck out of the accounts at once by the auditor of the union, and charged to the parties who had directed the expenditure. In this instance it was the application of the proceeds of some labour which, by a clandestine arrangement, were not brought into the union account, and the proceeds were applied to sending back the paupers to England.

425. About when was that?—About two or three years ago. Another, and the more frequent way in which assistance is given to persons to go back, is by charitable funds administered by private individuals. That that existed in several places during the time of the famine, I gather from a report received from Mr. Huband, who was at that time the Dublin inspector, and who had been directed to inquire into some case which was complained of in England. He found that the then lord mayor, Mr. Staunton, was administering a charitable fund for these purposes, either to enable persons who became chargeable on the North Dublin Union to find their way to their birthplace in Ireland, or to send them back, if they wished to go back, to England. At that time Mr. Huband said that he was cognizant of the same kind of association or agency existing in several other ports in Ireland. I do not know how far that could be borne out or not.

426. Were those funds exclusively applied to the sending back of those who had been here before, or were they applied to the sending over of persons who had never been here before?—I am speaking of persons who had been removed over under orders of removal. During the famine there is no doubt that there were transactions of the other kind which you have mentioned, but I believe they never were conducted by any public board.

427. Was not there a good deal of evidence upon that point incidentally, perhaps, before the Committee of 1847, on settlement and poor-law removal?—Yes, I understand there was.

428. There it was stated, how truly I cannot say, that municipal authorities, and local authorities of different kinds, and landowners in Ireland, had all done it?—Yes. The poor-law authorities, I think I can answer for it, did not do it; the attempt was certainly made, but I believe we had it entirely under control,

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and prevented it with the poor-law authorities, except it might be done in that clandestine way which I have mentioned without the funds being brought to account; it is highly improbable that it occurred otherwise. I thought it desirable, that report of Mr. Huband being in the return, to make inquiry how things stood at present in that respect, and I wrote to all the inspectors connected with the ports a private letter, to ask whether they knew of any such agency or association existing. I find that nothing at the present time exists of that kind in Dublin, and nothing in any of the other ports, so far as our inspectors know, and they have answered me, saying, they believe it would be in their knowledge if it were so, with one exception, and that is rather a remarkable one; it is Belfast. There has always been some organization at Belfast, I believe generally of private funds, for these purposes, to send forward to the place of birth people landed there; those would be generally from Scotland; or when they thought them improperly removed from Scotland, to send them back to Scotland. That exists at this moment in a shape when we were not officially aware of before. If you will allow me, I will read the answer of one of our inspectors to my letter: "In reply to your inquiry as to my knowledge of any association or other agency for assisting Irishmen to go back to England or Scotland after removal from thence, I regret that, though convinced that such agency does exist, and to a very considerable extent, the information I possess is not of that positive character to make it of much value. It may, however, be relied upon as a fact, that on the termination of the temporary relief in 1847, the Belfast Relief Committee had a very considerable balance on hand, the greater part, if not the whole, of which was avowedly appropriated to sending persons back to England and Scotland after removal from thence. It will be in your recollection that the Belfast Relief Fund was raised entirely by voluntary subscriptions without Government aid. At the recent vestry meeting for the appointment of churchwardens for the parish of Belfast, there was a great deal of angry discussion on the subject of parochial taxation; and, according to a newspaper report of the proceedings, the explanation of expenditure of money so raised comprised the removal of paupers supposed to be improperly sent from England and Scotland. I have endeavoured to get some explanation on this subject, but without success, as may be readily imagined, taxation or expenditure of money raised by taxation for such a purpose being unauthorised by law. I have known frequent instances of guardians making a subscription amongst themselves to send paupers to England and Scotland; but probably the most remarkable case on record is that of the secret committee of the Athlone guardians, constituted to dispose of articles manufactured in the workhouse by pauper labour, and apply the funds to the express purpose." That is the instance I have already alluded to. That letter is written by Colonel Clarke, the inspector of the Belfast district, to me. I wished to know if the inspectors had any personal knowledge of the existence of such a practice.

429. Mr. *C. Bruce.*] The instance of guardians making a subscription is not limited to Belfast?—The case is that of guardians making a subscription as private individuals, not applying public money; that, I have no doubt, has been done, and I mention it rather as showing the strong feeling which is excited by the narratives of those paupers on many occasions when they say that they were removed against their will; that they have been separated from connexions in England; that they wish to go back; and so on. I believe that these sort of proceedings are promoted rather by a charitable feeling than from a desire of relieving the community of the burthen of supporting paupers, which is on the whole very slight.

430. *Chairman.*] I suppose that those private associations, or private individuals, who send back, must rely almost exclusively upon the statements of the paupers themselves?—They must.

431. They could have no knowledge of the evidence which had been before the magistrates in England or in Scotland?—No.

432. Mr. *Liddell.*] Still they may have a direct object in sending them away to get rid of them?—I believe it is generally from charitable feelings that the subscription is made, as the burden is really not very serious in any case, excepting that of the North Dublin Union. The next point on which there is a feeling in Ireland of injustice is the non-reciprocity, their not having the power of removing English-born persons who are destitute in Ireland.

433. *Chairman.*] Or Scotchmen?—Or Scotchmen, Scotland having the power of removing English paupers back to England, if destitute in Scotland. I think, perhaps,

perhaps, there is one point which I should mention in connexion with that; people have generally supposed that very few English become destitute in Ireland, but it must not be forgotten that since Sturges Bourne's Act you have removed a vast quantity of children born in England into Ireland, who, in a system of complete reciprocity, would become removable back. We should ask for complete reciprocity, and say a child born in England shall be, if it becomes destitute in Ireland, removable back into England.

434. Those children have been removed as parts of the families of Irishmen? —I take it that a great portion of the persons removed are such children.

435. Children of Irishmen who have come to England, but the children themselves having been born in England?—The children having been born in England.

436. And sent back to Ireland in childhood, I suppose?—Yes.

437. As part of the family?—As part of the family. There must be a large quantity of indigent persons who would be removable.

438. Will you state anything which you wish to state further upon this point? —Occasionally English and Scotch persons become destitute in Ireland, but very seldom indeed. I met this morning a gentleman whom I know in Dublin; I told him that I was coming before this Committee; he said, "Do mention to the Committee the case of an Englishman, his wife, and five children, now chargeable upon the North Dublin Union, in one of the fever hospitals in Dublin, and we cannot remove them when they recover as we ought to be able to do."

439. The number is very small?—It is a case which one very seldom hears of.

440. Will you proceed with any observation which you have to make?—The next point upon which there is, I think, a good deal of bitter feeling, is the appeal. There is an apparent power of appeal against illegal removals to Ireland, which is not effective.

441. That is in the English Act; is there any such power in the Scotch Act? —There is no power of appeal in the Scotch Act at all, but in the English Act there is.

442. It is a power of appeal, I believe, by the Board of Guardians of the union prejudiced in Ireland against the removal?—Yes.

443. That is an appeal to the English sessions for that county from which the removal has been ordered?—It is. There are one or two points in regard to that; the appeal, it is directed, should be conducted by the English Poor Law Board; that enactment took place when the English Poor Law Board was also the Poor Law Board for Ireland; that explains that circumstance. When a separate Commission was instituted for Ireland, that power still remained in the Poor Law Board, and it has put the Poor Law Board in England in a difficult position with regard to English Boards of Guardians, that they should be called upon to conduct a litigious proceeding against one of their own Boards. Their view of the case is, that they ought to be nominal parties only, and that the aggrieved Board of Guardians in Ireland should in fact virtually be the litigant parties, and have an agent in England to conduct the appeal directly, to procure them information (for that is what they most want) to conduct the appeal. That we find is impracticable under the present law; in the first place we took very high legal advice upon the question whether those expenses could be charged upon the poor rates in Ireland, and we were answered in the negative.

444. Mr. *J. Ball.*] The preliminary expenses?—Yes; the appeal would be conducted in the name of the Poor Law Board, and if the matter went to trial all expenses incurred after the institution of the proceeding would be payable out of the deposit made by the aggrieved Board of Guardians in Ireland. We found that if inquiry were made previously, and agency expenses incurred, and no proceeding took place, or even if proceedings did take place by the authority of the Poor Law Board afterwards, that description of expense which was preliminary to the proceeding could not be charged upon the poor rates in Ireland.

445. *Chairman.*] When was that opinion taken?—That opinion appears in the correspondence now; we communicated the substance of it at the time.

446. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Did you communicate a copy of that opinion to the Poor Law Board in England?—No; but we communicated the fact that we had been legally advised that those expenses could not be charged.

447. *Chairman.*] Would not you be entitled to charge all such expenses of

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preliminary inquiries as a parish in England would be entitled to charge in making preliminary inquiries to rid itself of the burden of the maintenance of a pauper in England?—We were advised that we could not; it was an opinion given by Mr. Jonathan Henn, a gentleman whom at that time we usually consulted, a very eminent counsel.

448. Have you a copy of that opinion?—Yes; that opinion will be found in the present return of the correspondence.

449. Have you got it before you at this moment?—I have not.

450. Does anything further occur to you upon the appeal clause?—We are very helpless in that respect; the Poor Law Board think that they can only act as nominal parties, and that they ought not be asked to get up the case against their own Board of Guardians, which, I think, is a very right view of the matter, and we are helpless from not being able to do it. We got that opinion since one case of appeal went to trial; that is in the North Dublin Union. One case only of appeal has ever approached trial; it fell to the ground for want of notice; there was some irregularity in the notice, and we have never tried another since. But the weakest point in the whole of the appeal law has yet to be mentioned, that if you succeed in your appeal you do not get rid of the pauper unless he is willing to go. There is no machinery and no power given in the Act to coerce that person to go back to the place from which he was removed in England.

451. Do you mean that the parish which is shown by the result of the appeal to have wrongly removed him is not bound in any way to take him back as the law stands?—No, they are bound to take him back; but who is to take him there?

452. It is a difficulty about the removal?—Yes; no one has authority in Ireland to say, "You must go back to Liverpool."

453. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Or to pay the costs?—The costs are provided for in the Act; the cost of conveyance would have to be paid by the parish to which he was removed back, but there is no power to oblige him to go; he might bring an action if any one took him forcibly against his will on board a steamer.

454. *Chairman.*] Is any appeal given to the pauper himself against a wrongful removal?—None.

455. Have you any other observations on this part of the case?—On the question of any remedy of the present law I have considered many points in which it appeared to me that it might be altered, but I have come to the conclusion that probably nearly all those points were considered when the law was enacted, and that such amendments of the law were open to objection, such as giving reciprocal power of removal to Ireland, which is a thing we should be very sorry to see enacted there; we do much better without any law of settlement and removal. Another point is the giving the authorities of the port power to send on to the birthplace; we would rather not have that; we would rather be without any of that machinery whatever; and as regards an effective appeal, it is very difficult to imagine a satisfactory tribunal constituted, to which that appeal could be made; it must be either in England or in Ireland, and even if it were done satisfactorily, it would lead to a great deal of litigation which we should be very sorry to incur. We have an appeal in Ireland on the point of chargeability, which works extremely well; that is to say, an appeal may be made by an electoral division improperly charged with a pauper, with consent of the Irish Poor-law Commissioners, and that has resulted not in any litigation, but in making the Poor-law Commissioners a tribunal of appeal; it practically works in that way, because we look into the case, obtain advice if we require it, and settle the matter, unless it is some very nice point of law, which ought to go to a tribunal to be settled.

456. Do you remember under what provision of the Act it is that that takes place?—The appeal from the decision of the guardians as to chargeability is given by the 13th section of 6 & 7 Vict., c. 92, and again modified by the 11th section of 10 Vict., c. 31; I think, however, that there would be very great difficulty in amending the law so as to render it satisfactory on the points which I have mentioned.

457. I understand you to be of opinion that it is desirable to repeal the law of removal altogether?—I am, most unreservedly.

458. But, assuming for the moment that Parliament should think that that step could not be taken, do any amendments of the existing law occur to you which

which would render it better than it is at present?—I mentioned that it is requisite that the authorities of the port where the persons are landed should have the power of sending them on; that, at all events, they should receive a duplicate of the warrant; that they should have the persons handed over to them, and should have the power of removing them to the place of birth; for, without that power of removal to the birthplace, it would be very hard upon the authorities of the port if you were to amend the law by handing the pauper over to them, because at once, by that act, they become charged with him. There is an objection presenting itself to almost every one of the modifications of the law which one may fix on for improving it.

459. Is there any other point in which you think the law capable of improvement, though I understand you to be of opinion that it cannot be made free from objection altogether?—I think that, certainly, if it continues, there ought to be something stringent to require the parochial authorities to ensure protection against the weather during the passage; the clothing of these persons is so insufficient. I believe that the same rule exists in England as in Ireland; when a person goes into the workhouse, his clothes are put by for him, and he gets, when he goes out, the old dilapidated clothing; that is very unfit, at certain times of the year, to carry a man through a deck passage in stormy weather.

460. What do you think of the suggestion which was made here the other day, as to requiring a certain notice to be given by the parish proposing to remove to the authorities in Ireland or Scotland, as the case may be, giving them power to enter a kind of caveat against it, as you know is the case in this country, and which has the effect of suspending the proceedings until after the trial of the appeal?—That would not prevent considerable expense being incurred in inquiries in England; we should then want power to conduct inquiries in England as to the liability of the person to be removed. It would be an improvement, subject to that difficulty. Making a five years' residence in England a ground for irremovability in whatever part of England the residence might be, would be another improvement.

461. The present boundary is the parish; a person must have resided five years in the parish to become irremovable?—Yes; and therefore it very frequently happens that a man who has resided 40 or 50 years in England, by changing his residence to another parish, becomes liable to removal. That I propose to take away; it would be an improvement to take that away; it would lessen the hardship of removing men from long established connexions.

462. So as to make a larger area, such as the union, or something of that kind, or the whole country, you would suggest?—The whole country I should say; let the five years be five years anywhere in England; let the party be irremovable if he has spent five years in England.

463. Mr. *Liddell.*] Suppose five years of vagrancy and mendicancy spent in England, where would you give that man a settlement?—Nowhere. It however would remove, in some respect, the hardship which I have mentioned, which very frequently applies to persons who have not been vagrant or mendicant, but industrious and honest labourers.

464. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Have you not found a great diminution of the Irish removals since the Irremovable Act passed?—There has certainly been a reduction in the number of cases which have come before us.

465. Have you any tabular statement of the number of cases in each year?—No, it has not been tabularised; it could be very easily done.

466. You have not any statement of the number for the last five or seven years?—No; I could only judge by the number of cases about which we have heard; it can be tabularised.

467. You have not that information?—It could easily be deduced from my index to the correspondence.

468. *Chairman.*] Perhaps you can furnish that?—I will furnish it.

469. From the time of the passing of the Five Years' Act in 1846?—Yes.

470. Mr. *J. Ball.*] That return, however, refers only to cases which have been made the subject of complaint to your Board?—It refers only to those cases.

471. Therefore no inference can safely be drawn as to the whole number of removals in each year, but only as to those cases which have been supposed to be a breach of the law?—Just so.

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472. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Is no return made to the Poor Law Board in Ireland of persons landed under those circumstances?—No.

473. Have you no knowledge of them?—Not at all.

474. Mr. *J. Ball.*] And no one in Ireland?—No one in Ireland.

475. *Chairman.*] Do you think that information could be obtained in the way suggested by the Right honourable Baronet in each year?—It has been done for one year; it might be done for a series of years.

476. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Is there any information in Ireland as regards the subject?—There is no information in Ireland at all except where a complaint has arisen about removal, and it has become the subject of correspondence through the Irish Poor Law Commission.

477. Are the complaints on the decrease?—They are fewer certainly in later years than they were during the years of famine, which began shortly after the passing of the Act.

478. Mr. *Maguire.*] You have been asked whether the complaints are fewer now than they were before; do you know any reason why they were fewer, say last year, than they were three years ago, not a period of famine?—I am not sure that they have been fewer in the last year of three years.

479. Are they becoming less every year?—No, I cannot say that.

480. You said that they were less?—They are less in latter years than they were in earlier years of the operation of the Act; the first five years of the operation of the Act may be considered to have been within the duration of the famine, and the last four years not so.

481. *Chairman.*] You have stated that, in your opinion, this law of removal ought to be repealed; do you conceive it desirable to enact any provisions by way of protecting one country against persons being destitute in another, who may be removed to that country?—I think that stringent provisions should in that case exist, to prevent the authority in one country removing persons chargeable to them to the other country, and also to prevent persons themselves going from one country to the other in a state of destitution, with the intention of seeking relief. We have a provision similar to the last existing in Ireland under our Vagrant Act, that is the 10th & 11th Victoria, chapter 84.

482. What is the nature of that provision?—"Every person who, having been resident in any union in Ireland, shall go from such union to some other union, or from one electoral or relief district to another electoral or relief district in Ireland, for the purpose of obtaining relief in such last-mentioned union or district, shall, on conviction thereof before any justice of the peace, if such justice shall think fit, be committed to the common gaol or house of correction, there to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding one calendar month."

483. Is there a penalty upon guardians sending a man from their own union to another union, in order that he may become chargeable there?—There is no penalty; but we had an opinion about four years ago from the then Attorney-General, to the effect that Boards of Guardians or their officers assisting persons to remove from one union, in which they were chargeable, to another to shift the burthen, were liable to indictment for misdemeanor.

483*. As for a conspiracy, I suppose, unjustly to burthen the other union; that would be the nature of the charge?—Yes.

484. But there is no statutory provision?—There is no statutory provision.

485. I dare say you remember that in our Act, which is called the Five Years Act, the 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66, there is a provision making it penal for the officer of any union to assist in forwarding a pauper from his own union to another, in order that he may become chargeable to that latter union?—I am aware of that.

486. Is it some provision of that kind which you would suggest as an enactment, that should be adopted if the power of removal were taken away?—We have found the threat of indictment, or rather telling the guardians that they were liable to indictment for those practices, quite sufficient on the whole to check it. Occasionally they disregard it, but one Union Board of Guardians threatens another, and I think since that opinion was given, there has been very little irregularity of that sort committed. No indictment has ever taken place, although it has only been on some occasions prevented by our having a distinct promise and resolution of the Board of Guardians to abstain from that course in future on our representing their liability to be indicted for it.

487. I suppose the opinion which you had was to the effect, that all persons engaged

engaged in actively carrying out a conspiracy of that kind were indictable?—Yes.

488. Not a Board of Guardians, as a corporation, unless as a Board of Guardians they had resolved upon it, but persons engaged in it, individual guardians subscribing, as in the case you have before put?—No; I take it that individual guardians subscribing from their own private funds would not be indictable; an individual guardian has no power to act officially in the administration of the poor law, excepting as a member of the Board; he therefore cannot apply the public funds; and if he applies his own private funds, he is not liable. I am not sure that you could indict him, and it would seem rather a strong measure to render him subject to indictment or penalty.

489. Supposing half-a-dozen guardians, who are rate-payers, in one union, combine to forward a pauper to another union, in order to throw the burthen of chargeability upon that other union, according to the opinion which you have taken, would they be indictable for it?—I think not.

490. It does not go that length?—I think not; if the Board of Guardians passed a resolution directing their officers to give money to a person for the purpose of carrying him to another electoral division, or to take him by conveyance into another union, then they would be indictable, and the officers concerned in it would be indictable.

491. Could you give us a copy of that opinion?—Yes; it was Mr. Hatchell's opinion.

492. Will you be good enough to forward to us the case and the opinion?—I will.

493. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to the cases to which you have last referred, will you be so good as to inform the Committee whether you have received information of any attempt on the part of Boards of Guardians to discharge themselves of the pauperism which belongs properly to the union, or whether these cases have arisen from disputes as to the chargeability of individual paupers?—The way in which it usually arises is, that the pauper chargeable has been for a very short time in the union before he becomes chargeable, and has come directly out of some other union. We are very strict in our rule in Ireland. Wherever a man becomes destitute, there he is considered to be entitled to relief, and there he remains chargeable, without any power of change. The description of case referred to is one in which a Board of Guardians think it very hard that they should relieve a pauper who has been for some time previously resident in another union, and they give some direction by which he is conveyed by their officers, or assisted to go.

494. You are not cognizant of any attempt on the part of any Board of Guardians in Ireland to get rid of their own paupers and those about whom no dispute exists, in order that they may become chargeable to other unions?—Not when the parties have been residents with them previously.

495. In point of fact, are there many unions in Ireland which are exceedingly well circumstanced in point of their power of providing for the relief of the poor; I mean lightly rated?—Very lightly burthened indeed, a great many of them.

496. Are there many towns in the north and east of Ireland, and many rural districts, in which the burthen of pauperism is very light?—It is very light indeed at the present time in many.

497. Would it be more difficult for a distressed union in the west of Ireland to send paupers to the better-circumstanced unions in Ireland, than to send them either to England or to Scotland?—It would be easier for them to send them to some other union in Ireland.

498. If there did not exist a controlling power on the part of the Poor-law Board, and a state of the law which makes it illegal?—Yes.

499. In point of fact, should such a disposition arise, of which you have no official cognizance, would the same state of the law which prevents the removal by guardians from one union in Ireland to another be sufficient to prevent the removal to England or to Scotland, as far as you are able to judge?—I see no disposition on the part of the Boards of Guardians in Ireland to remove people who fairly belong to them, and whom they consider as belonging to them; Irish paupers, in fact, persons being destitute in Ireland, and Irish residents, to England or to Scotland. In the time of the famine, private individuals engaged in that, I believe; but I have said before, that the Boards of Guardians, I believe, did not; if they did, they were always checked, because we see their

minutes; every proceeding of every Board of Guardians in Ireland is before us every week.

500. And the disposition to remove back again to England or Scotland persons who have come over is so far sustained by public opinion, that no state of the law probably would be completely sufficient to check it?—Not unless you made it penal for persons to subscribe privately for that purpose. I have said, I think, in my examination, that, with the exception of Belfast, I do not know that that practice does now exist as a systematic practice.

501. If the power of removal from England or Scotland to Ireland were abolished, is it your opinion that the provision of the Irish Poor-law Relief Act, making it illegal for a person to go from one parish to another to seek for relief, should extend to the entire empire?—As between England and Ireland, it should be a law to prevent a person going from Ireland to seek relief in England.

502. Having declared it to be illegal for a person to go from one union to another for the purpose of seeking relief, do you see any objection to making it illegal on the part of any other person to aid and abet in such a breach of the law?—No, I see no objection to that, taking it to be for the purpose of that person gaining relief in the place.

503. Therefore you would make it a punishable offence, either for a Board of Guardians or for any private persons, to send paupers from one place to another with the view of their obtaining relief there?—Yes, I see no objection to that.

504. Are you prepared with any statistical evidence of the present amount of able-bodied paupers in Ireland, from which the Committee might judge of the number of persons who would be likely, of their own accord, to endeavour to get from Ireland to England, in order to obtain relief in England?—I can state the number of able-bodied paupers in the workhouses in Ireland as lately as the 22d April last: able-bodied males, 7,804; females, 21,598: total, 29,402.

505. Sir *J. Young.*] With respect to able-bodied males, does not it include the old and boys just over 16?—It includes boys over 15; boys over 15 rank as adults, and I have no doubt that in this number are comprised a great many people, who, out of the workhouse, would not be thought able-bodied. They are not such as they can class as aged and infirm, although they may be very poor creatures in many respects.

506. Do you suppose that among those there are any large proportion that are really efficient labourers?—Not a very large proportion, I take it, who are really efficient labourers. There was a great demand for labour over the whole country at the time of the date of the return.

507. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Perhaps you can put in a statement of the number of able-bodied males who were receiving relief in the workhouses in Ireland in the years 1848, 1849, 1850, and 1851?—Yes, I can do that.

508. Can you inform the Committee whether the number then receiving relief was very much larger than it is at present?—I can.

509. From the information possessed by your Board, should you say that the class of indigent persons who would be likely to seek for work in Ireland now exceeds considerably anywhere the demand for that description of labour?—I believe there is a very great demand, and a great complaint in many parts of the country that they cannot obtain sufficient labour for the spring operations. The time is rather going by now, but I have no doubt that in harvest there will be great difficulty this season, all over Ireland, in obtaining labour. And I may mention that we have ascertained by inquiries recently, that the money-rate of wages has increased materially in the agricultural districts; on an average, about 1*s.* a week throughout the whole of Ireland.

510. Mr. *Dunlop.*] What may now be the wages per week of an able-bodied man; a common labourer?—I am supposing them to have increased from about 4*s.* 6*d.* a week to 5*s.* 6*d.* throughout the whole country; it would be fair, perhaps, to say from 5*s.* to 6*s.*

511. Sir *J. Young.*] Is not the employment, generally, much more continuous?—There is more continuous employment, and people who have labourers are obliged to hold by them longer; they cannot dismiss them, and have them again with convenience.

512. Before the famine, could it have been said that 4*s.* 6*d.* was an average rate of wages in Ireland, or that the agricultural labourers had, in Ireland, any continuous employment at all?—They had not continuous employment, certainly, I should say, throughout the department of agricultural labour.

513. Is

513. Is it not the fact that in the greater part of the counties in Ireland, a labourer could not reckon upon more than 150 days' employment in the year?—I believe so.

514. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was not 6 *d.* a day the usual rate of wages?—Very often; I have heard of less than 6 *d.* a day.

515. Mr. *Liddell.*] In general had not these people their own plots of land?—A great deal of the labour was derived from people who had their own plots of land to live upon, who were not in continuous employment, but depended upon that.

516. Mr. *C. Bruce.*] Would they have accepted continuous employment?—They might certainly have had more continuous employment, and have still cultivated those very small portions of land which they had.

517. Mr. *J. Ball.*] In point of fact, the conacre system, to which I presume reference has been made, has now almost completely disappeared?—One sometimes hears of its reviving; it had disappeared.

518. In the present state of Ireland, do you think that there would be any practical danger that, in case the law of removal from England and Scotland were taken away, any considerable influx of destitute poor would of their own accord go from Ireland to England, or Scotland, to seek relief?—No, under the ordinary circumstances of the country, I do not apprehend that there are persons going of their own accord now to seek relief in England; they go to look for employment; I do not think they go over now with any other view than that of seeking employment.

519. At the time, and soon after the Acts referring to the two countries, of the 8 & 9 Vict., and the subsequent Acts amending them, were passed, the number who went from Ireland to England or Scotland was very considerable indeed?—Very.

520. So that at that time there appeared to be a great necessity for introducing some measure, however incomplete, for protecting the ratepayers in England and in Scotland against the influx of those persons?—Not for introducing a measure at that time; the existing Act was passed in 1845. The great influx of persons into England, which the late Mr. Rushton's evidence shows to have been 130,000 in three months, landed at Liverpool, was at the beginning of the famine; a year or two after the passing of that Act.

521. Can you state whether the number in 1845 was much more considerable than at present, of poor persons going from Ireland to England, trusting to chance for their means of subsistence?—I do not know whether it was more or less; I do not recollect that we had any correspondence about it at that time; there was a law then in existence like the present law, but I do not recollect any correspondence whatever, and I think there is not anything of an older date in this correspondence than 1846 or 1847.

522. It is, however, notorious that a very large number of poor Irish used annually to proceed to England and Scotland in search of work?—A very large number in harvest time.

523. That number is very much diminished?—The number is diminished now very much.

524. Have you any information to enable you to judge whether, in point of fact, there is a desire in agricultural districts in England to obtain a greater supply of Irish labourers?—I do not know; I have heard that there are not so many Irish to be had now in England, at the time of harvest.

525. Having informed the Committee that you do not think there is a likelihood, at present, of any considerable voluntary immigration of Irish paupers, is it your opinion that, by extending the provisions of the Irish Poor Relief Act, not only to the persons who themselves seek for relief but to those who aid and abet them in so doing, there is reason to fear that either public or private bodies in Ireland would send over the paupers now chargeable to Irish unions?—If it were made penal for persons to assist paupers to go from Ireland to England, for the purpose of obtaining relief there (a point rather difficult to prove, as to the intention), it might, nevertheless, be very effectual in restraining those private subscriptions, because there would be the feeling that it was against the law, which it is not now; and I think it would be a very excellect provision to make if you abolished the present Act.

526. But any subscriptions that you are aware of have been applied only to cases of sending people back who were thought to have been improperly removed;

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in point of fact, there has been no system of private subscriptions to transport Irish paupers?—No: it has been applied to send persons back who have been removed, or to send them on to the place of birth, generally.

527. Mr. *Liddell.*] How can you make any distinction between an able-bodied labourer and an able-bodied pauper, who has come over to England?—I saw 200 or 300 able-bodied labourers, just before I left Dublin, coming over by one packet; there was not one of them that I should think a pauper, or like a pauper to look at; they were better clothed than they used to be in former years; they were coming over to hay-harvest, I believe.

528. Mr. *J. Ball.*] You have informed the Committee that the whole number of cases reported to you, of paupers removed from England to Ireland, during the last year, who became chargeable to the unions in Ireland, was 1,208?—Yes, chargeable to the port unions.

529. Are you aware that the number of paupers removed from England to Ireland is very much greater than that, amounting to something like 5,000?—I am aware of that.

530. Have you any information which would lead you to suppose that many of these paupers who are removed from England to Ireland are persons not really destitute, who avail themselves of the present state of the law to obtain a passage from England to Ireland?—I have heard that that is the case to a great extent, but I really do not know anything about it myself.

531. If the case were otherwise, do you think it probable that not more than one-fifth of the whole number would apply for relief at the ports in Ireland?—That is a possible explanation of the number who have been removed, and have not become chargeable. I think a good many of them go on to the place of birth without applying at the port.

532. Mr. *C. Bruce.*] Can you state the expense of a deck passage from Liverpool to any port in Ireland?—It varies to the different ports, I think from about 2 *s.* 6 *d.* to 5 *s.*; to Dublin it would be 2 *s.* 6 *d.*; and to the ports on the eastern coast about 2 *s.* 6 *d.* or 3 *s.*; to Belfast, 4 *s.* or 5 *s.*; and to Cork as high as 6 *s.*

533. Sir *G. Grey.*] Are you aware of the actual price paid for a deck passage for an Irish pauper coming from Dublin to Liverpool in the year 1847?—One shilling, I believe.

534. Do you know what the price was back again?—I think 2 *s.* 6 *d.*

535. You are aware of that differential price?—Yes.

536. That, in point of fact, at that time the steam-boat owners contracted to bring them over at a very much less price than they took them back under orders of removal?—Just so.

537. You referred to Mr. Rushton's evidence in 1847; are you aware that he stated, in addition to the fact of 130,000 Irish persons having landed in Liverpool in three months, that they always applied for relief immediately on coming to Liverpool?—Yes; I have not read that evidence lately.

538. In Question 4408 he is asked, "Do the Irish generally, on coming to Liverpool, immediately demand parochial relief?" "Always; they walk up to the district office, and the committee may form some notion of the extent of that, when I tell them, that instead of the usual relieving officers at Liverpool, we have drafted 24 of our best police officers, and divided the town into several districts, and made the police relieving officers"?—Yes, I believe that to be Mr. Rushton's evidence.

539. You have stated the undoubted hardship which affects some of the Irish ports to which Irish paupers are removed under orders of removal from England, owing to their not having the power of passing them on to their places of birth?—Yes.

540. Do you not think that a still greater hardship affects places situated like Liverpool, Glasgow, and Bristol, from their proximity to Ireland, and from the immense influx of Irish paupers to which, on some occasions, they are liable?—I think the situation of Liverpool is a very great hardship indeed on such occasions as that of the Irish famine.

541. Do you think that they have had hitherto any power of remedying that hardship, except by removing back paupers who have become chargeable to Ireland?—I think the power of removing them back again to Ireland entirely failed on that occasion. In Mr. Rushton's evidence, he said it was a dead letter; and I think the existence of the law rather tended to distract the authorities

authorities of Liverpool from other measures which they might have taken on that occasion to protect the town, and that the removal back under this law was not an effectual remedy.

542. In point of fact, were great numbers removed back from Liverpool to Dublin, or to other ports in Ireland, at that time?—I rather think there were a good many removals at that time; they did it as well as they could.

543. Are you aware that one of the objections, at the time when Mr. Rushton stated that it was comparatively a dead letter, was the difficulty of finding the paupers, to serve them with the summons, which difficulty was removed by a subsequent Act, which facilitated those orders of removal?—Yes; I am aware that there was a further Act passed for that purpose.

544. I understand you now to recommend, that a pauper coming from Ireland to England in a destitute state, or for the purpose of obtaining relief, should be subjected, on conviction in England, to a month's imprisonment?—Yes; I recommend some penalty.

545. Would you consider that it was sufficient evidence of such intention to justify a conviction, if a pauper, immediately on his arrival at Liverpool, as in 1847, applied for parochial relief?—Under the circumstances then existing, I think it might have been presumed that they came over for that purpose, and that the intention might fairly have been presumed; but under the ordinary state of things you would want to know something of the history of the pauper before he left Ireland, in order to convict him fairly of the intention.

546. Then you do not think that the fact of an Irish pauper arriving in a steamboat at Liverpool, being landed on the quay, and applying immediately for parochial relief, would be sufficient evidence of the intention to come here for the purpose of obtaining relief to justify a conviction?—It would be very strong evidence, but I scarcely think it would carry a conviction in ordinary circumstances.

547. Do you think that a month's imprisonment in an English gaol would operate sufficiently to deter Irish paupers from coming here for the purpose of obtaining relief?—I do not think that they do, under ordinary circumstances, come over in many cases for the purpose merely of seeking for that relief in Liverpool, which they could gain in their own country; there is some difference in the form of relief, but I do not think they do that. At the same time, I think, it would be satisfactory to have a protection by law against such a contingency.

548. Then if you think that but few come over with the intention of obtaining relief, very few of those who now come would fall under the operation of that law?—Very few, I think, of those who come over would fall under the operation of that law.

549. Do you know the number of Irish paupers who became chargeable last year in Liverpool to the parishes?—I do not know the number; but I presume those were not persons who came over from Ireland; there is a very large constantly-resident population in Liverpool, of whom some proportion, of course, will become destitute.

550. Have you any means of stating, in the first instance, what number became chargeable, say last year, in Liverpool, and next, of that number, what proportion had not been six months in England?—No, I have no means.

551. With reference to the case of Hopkins, you stated that he was 60 years old?—Yes.

552. I find, in the statement addressed by the Poor-law Commissioners to the Secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant, this passage: "It appears, from Captain Hamilton's Report, that this family emigrated to Liverpool some months ago from the Castlebar Union, and that having become inmates of the Liverpool workhouse, they were kept there a few days, and then by the parish authorities were put on board a steam-vessel bound for Sligo"?—Yes.

553. Are you aware whether they were put on board a steam-vessel bound for Sligo, with their own consent, as the law required?—I have no reason to suppose it was otherwise than with their own consent.

554. On being landed at Sligo, were not the guardians of the Sligo Union bound to relieve them if they were in a state of destitution?—They were, if they applied for relief.

555. I find the following passage in the Report: "It appears further, from Captain Hamilton's Report, that this family were endeavouring to reach their former place of residence in Castlebar Union, without applying for relief in the

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Sligo Union, in which they were landed, or even in the intervening Union of Ballina, but vainly attempted to live by begging on their journey towards Castlebar." Do not you think the death of the man probably arose from his not applying for relief which the law had provided, first in the Sligo Union, and afterwards in the Ballina Union?—I think it did; I think very likely they were ignorant upon the subject. They are examined as to the place of their birth in Ireland before the magistrate; they say, "We came from Castlebar;" then it is said, "You must go to the port of Sligo;" their impression is that they are transmitted there on their way to the place of birth, and many of them may be in a great state of ignorance as to where they ought to apply for relief, or whether they can successfully apply for relief at the port at which they land.

556. But do you think that, in the year 1851, in which this case occurred, Irish paupers, who had been but a short time absent from Ireland, were ignorant that they might apply for relief in any union in Ireland in which they were actually found destitute?—I think that is very likely to be the case as to persons constantly resident in Ireland, since they belong to the union in which they have resided.

557. With reference to what you stated as to individual Boards of Guardians assisting paupers to leave their parishes, are you aware of the provisions of the clause in what is called the English Poor Removal Act, which subjects any officer of a union or a parish to a penalty for directly or indirectly furnishing money to any pauper with the view to induce him to leave the parish in which he is, and to go into another parish?—Yes; it does not say "Guardian," I believe.

558. "Officer;" would not a guardian be considered an officer?—No.

559. Would not you think it right, in order to make that enactment efficient for its purpose, that an individual guardian, or any officer of a union subscribing to a fund for the purpose of sending paupers away, should be liable to a penalty, although the money was not provided out of the rates?—Certainly; if the intention were to fix the burden of the pauper upon some other chargeable community, I would apply it not only to a guardian, but to any private individual.

560. *Chairman.*] To a ratepayer?—To any private individual.

561. Colonel *Mure.*] With respect to the case of Hopkins, the circumstances being such as you have stated them in answer to the Right Honourable Baronet, what is the peculiar hardship which you found in that case which induced you to quote it as one of the special cases of hardship under the existing law?—Some part of the suffering in that case, namely, in the deck passage, was accidental, and how far it contributed to the exhaustion of the family, I am not prepared to say. They had a sufficiency of food, one shilling's worth of food for each person, and 1*s.* in money besides; and I have said that was a fair and reasonable provision for them. I dare say their clothing was bad, and not suited to exposure to very inclement weather; but I think the authorities of the port of Liverpool could hardly be blamed for that. The hardship which I particularly dwell upon in that Sligo case is, that the law has made no provision for delivering over a pauper, when landed in Ireland, to the Poor-law authorities of the place where he is landed.

562. I think, in answer to Sir George Grey's question, you mentioned that the Poor-law authorities at the place where the people are landed are bound to give them relief upon application?—They are bound to give relief upon application.

563. Then, what would you have more than that?—I would have them most scrupulously given over. The presumption clearly is, that they are destitute persons; they are removed in consequence of having fallen into a state of destitution; I would have them removed as they are now all removed in England. The authorities taking a person forcibly, and sending him to another place, should deliver him over, being destitute, to the Poor-law authorities of the place to which they remove him, and not leave him, shiftless, to find his way, in a state of ignorance as to whom to apply to, or what is to become of him. I have seen people myself, in Dublin, landed from a steamer, who really did not know what they were to do or where they were to go, in a perfect state of destitution.

564. That hardship would apply to every case of removal, but did not apply specially to the case of Hopkins?—Not specially; it applies to every case of removal.

565. There were no circumstances in the case of Hopkins which constituted in that case a special hardship?—I quote that case as an instance of the kind of hardship which takes place in every case.

566. Mr. *J. Ball.*] In point of fact, the man died?—Yes.

567. If this man or his family were acquainted with the Irish Poor Relief Acts, they would have known that it was an offence against those Acts to apply for relief on their way, in endeavouring to reach their own home?—If they were acquainted with the Vagrant Act.

568. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you mean to say that it would have been an offence for Hopkins to have applied on landing from the steam-boat to the Board of Guardians for relief, and that it was no offence for him to beg his way, instead of applying for relief, to Castlebar?—It was no offence for him to apply to the authorities of Sligo for relief, that is quite clear; but having been in Sligo, and perhaps having been for a day or two in Sligo, he was committing an offence against the law when he went out of that union into Ballina Union, if his intention was to obtain relief.

569. You mean that he ought to have applied to the first union he came to, instead of walking out of that union and applying to the second?—Yes.

570. Although on the way to the place of his birth?—Yes; if his object was to look for relief; but the relief they look for in these cases is by begging, which is also an offence.

571. Do you really think that it was ignorance of the law which hindered him from applying for relief, or that he was afraid of being put into the Sligo workhouse, and that he preferred going home to the Castlebar workhouse?—I have no doubt he wished to go to the Castlebar Union.

572. Have any means been taken by the Poor-law authorities in Ireland to inform the large number of persons who are removed back from England to Ireland, that on their landing, if destitute, they are at liberty to apply for relief to the union in which they are landed?—No; we should be very much complained of, I think, by the guardians of the North Dublin Union, if we were to advertise the fact to these persons on landing, that they ought to go to the relieving officer of the North Dublin Union.

573. Do not you think that you would be much more justly complained of, if those persons died in consequence of an ignorance of the law, which the authorities had the power of removing?—I think it very likely that they are ignorant of the law in many cases.

574. How is that ignorance of the law compatible with the fact which you mentioned in a former part of your evidence, of the very large number of persons who, having been removed back from England to Ireland, became chargeable at the ports where they were landed?—I think it is compatible with that fact.

575. Mr. *J. Ball.*] About one-fifth applied for relief?—About one-fifth of the whole number.

576. Sir *G. Grey.*] I thought you stated that it is a great hardship, and it seems an obvious one, on the unions comprising the ports at which paupers are landed on their removal from England to Ireland, that those paupers become chargeable to those unions, and throw a very heavy burden upon them?—Yes.

577. How do those paupers become chargeable to those unions if on landing they are generally ignorant of their right to relief in those unions?—They land very often in immediate need of relief; they are found, as I have said, in that state; I have seen them myself landing on the North Quay, and have put them in communication with the relieving officer. Every inhabitant of Dublin knows that there is a relieving officer and a Poor Law; if he saw a poor family in that state, and they begged of him, he would at once send them to the relieving officer.

578. I find it stated in this case of the Hopkinses, that they did land in a very suffering state at Sligo?—They landed in a very suffering state with some money which was given by the authorities in Liverpool, and I suppose by it and by begging they managed to get into the country towards Castlebar; they very likely did not apply at Sligo.

579. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] What, in your opinion, is the proportion of those applying for relief at the ports; so large as the Right honourable Baronet seems to suppose, compared with the number who have been sent back from England to Ireland?—

Ireland?—Presuming one year to give the same number as the other, it was about 1,200 who applied at the ports, out of 4,800.

580. Sir *B. Hall.*] Is the Committee to understand that you are in favour of the irremovability of paupers from this country back to Ireland?—Yes, certainly.

581. Taking a case which has been assumed by Sir George Grey, that a party comes over from Ireland to Liverpool and demands relief immediately there, would you still think that it would be right that that person should not be removable again?—I would enact a law to punish him, if it could be proved to the satisfaction of the magistrates that he came for the purpose of seeking relief in England; but if he came merely in search of employment, or from some such motive, he should not be punished. In neither case should he be sent back.

582. Take this case, that a party shall arrive some morning by a steamer in Liverpool, and shall apply for relief that evening: you would suggest that that person should be punished by the magistrates, and that after having come out confinement he should be irremovable, and should be allowed to continue in this country?—I do not entertain a very clear opinion that in such a case he might not be removed back to Ireland, where you have convicted him of coming to the country for the purpose of receiving relief. I rather think, on reconsideration, that there would be no harm in your giving power of removal back, but the objection is that you must then have a machinery in Ireland for the removal of paupers; if he came out of some place not in Dublin, as a mere pauper, for the purpose of obtaining relief in Liverpool, he should, on being removed to Dublin, not become chargeable in Dublin, but be put in possession of the Dublin authorities, and removed by them to the place which he had left.

583. Still you think that the case which I have suggested would be an exceptional case, and a proper case for removal to Ireland?—I am disposed to think that that might be a proper case for removal.

584. How far do you propose to carry that exceptional case; I am assuming now only the case of a party who shall arrive in the morning, and apply for relief in the afternoon; that you consider a fairly exceptionable case, and that the man should be punished in the first instance and removed afterwards; how far would you carry any case of that kind?—I would have him convicted of the intention; you could not define the precise circumstances in the statute, but it should be for the magistrate, on hearing the case, to decide that he considered that the pauper had come with the intention of obtaining relief in England. I think that might be presumed, from his applying in a very short time after his landing.

585. Take this case, that a person shall come over to our harvest, and come over *bonâ fide* for the purpose of getting employment, and shall be employed for a month or six weeks during harvest, and shall work uninterruptedly during harvest; do you wish the Committee to infer from your evidence, that that is a person who should not be removed back again to Ireland?—I do, most distinctly.

586. No matter how short a time he is in England, provided he comes over with the view of getting employment, he should not be removed?—If he came with the view of getting employment, I think he should not be removed.

587. I understand you to say that there are not nearly so many persons emigrating from Ireland to this country as formerly?—Certainly, not so many as during the famine.

588. Do you apprehend that there are fewer this year coming over to England than there were last year?—I can only judge by what I hear. I believe that there are not so many likely to come over from Ireland this year as formerly, because certainly the demand for agricultural labour in Ireland has very much increased within a year or two.

589. Do you apprehend that there is a greater demand now for labour throughout the agricultural districts of Ireland?—During the spring we have heard of it almost universally. We have had reports from our inspectors over the whole of Ireland lately upon that subject, at the wish of the Emigration Board, and they have reported a very strong demand for labour; that was about a month ago.

590. If there is that great demand for labour in the agricultural districts and otherwise in Ireland, why is there an emigration from that country into this country?—They can get so much better wages in this country than they can in Ireland; that is, no doubt, the temptation.

591. Would

591. Would you wish the Committee to understand this: that if an able-bodied person who comes over to this country, and gets wages varying from 8*s.* to 15*s.* a week, was to receive anything like a fair remuneration for his services in his own country where this demand is so general, he would leave that country?—He would be less likely to leave it, undoubtedly.

592. Then do you not think that the emigration is owing to the fact that the wages are so very small as 4*s.* 6*d.* a week in Ireland?—I have no doubt that the Irish labourer is tempted over to England because he can get better wages here than he can in his own country.

593. And if the employers in Ireland, desirous to have that labour, were to give the same wages that the employers in England give, there would not be that emigration?—It would not be to the same degree.

594. You say that it is an injustice to Ireland, as a rate-paying country, that parties should be removed; how do you consider it to be so?—I have explained the various points, I think, of the injustice to Ireland, particularly as to the ports.

595. Does not this also show that there would not be the same number of parties to be removed from England to Ireland, if a proper amount of wages was paid to the persons in Ireland, because they would be kept in Ireland, and not be liable, consequently, to be sent over from this country; is not that a fact?—Yes; but I do not think that that is an answer to the injustice at all. I am not aware that there is any injustice in the rate of wages. Wages must depend upon the want of the employer, and his ability to satisfy it; he will not, generally speaking, give more wages than he can obtain the same amount of labour for.

596. I thought you said that there is hardly a sufficiency of labour now in Ireland?—The wages have risen in consequence.

597. To the amount of 4*s.* 6*d.* a week?—Four shillings and sixpence was the former amount. I say 5*s.* 6*d.* or 6*s.*, now, is about the ordinary rate of agricultural wages throughout Ireland, it being more in some places, and less in others.

598. Then the wages amount to 5*s.* 6*d.* or 6*s.* a week at this time, when there is a demand for labour?—That is so.

599. Sir *J. Young.*] Not during the seed-time and the harvest?—The average, throughout Ireland, I should say, was from 5*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.*, as far as I can judge.

600. That is the average of the year?—Yes, it is the average of the year.

601. Not of the seed-time and harvest?—Not of the particular time.

602. Sir *B. Hall.*] I think you said that the number of paupers which had returned to the ports, and become chargeable upon those ports, was about 1,208; and you gave the manner in which those paupers were distributed in the different ports, and stated that 327 only remained chargeable?—Yes.

603. How do the others find their way back again?—I have described that they are very often assisted to find their way back by private charity; they have connexions in England who send them money to come back, I have no doubt, in many cases. They may remain in Ireland some time before they obtain the means of going back. I have not been able to investigate the different ways in which they obtain the means of going back to England, but I presume a great many do so, from so few of the whole number remaining chargeable. It is a vague impression, perhaps, upon the whole, but I have derived it from Mr. Crawford, the inspector of the North Dublin Union, who knows more about the details of the particular cases; he has that impression, and I take it rather from him than from facts that I am cognisant of.

604. You stated that in one case the Board of Gnardians assisted in the return of paupers, and that in another case charitable funds were appropriated to the purpose of sending back paupers, and that in one instance the Lord Mayor of Dublin was at the head of an association having that object in view; do you know of any cases where landlords and others have associated, and subscribed for the purpose of sending persons over to this country?—I do not think there is anything of that kind in our correspondence, but I recollect hearing, during the time of the famine, that such exertions were made by landlords, and the agents of landlords; that steps were taken to remove people over to the coasts of England.

605. For whom they could not provide in their own country?—I believe that that was done. I may add, that I do not think that anything of that nature is

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being done now, as far as I am aware; it might be done without my knowing it.

606. Mr. *Liddell.*] How do you account, in fact, for the great multitudes of Irish poor that do come over to this country, even at present?—I am not aware that they do.

607. I am inclined to believe that the returns of immigrants to the port of Liverpool will prove that they do, and those returns can be obtained?—There are vast numbers who go as emigrants to Liverpool; a great number come over as labourers into England from time to time, but they are not what we call poor in that country, because we mean by poor, destitute poor, in Ireland.

608. These men are so far destitute that they come over in search of labour?—Yes.

609. Are you aware of the cost which was inflicted upon the town of Liverpool in the years 1846 and 1847, at the time of the Irish famine?—I am not aware of the amount; it must have been very considerable.

610. Have you ever heard it put as high as 70,000 *l.* to 80,000 *l.*?—No; I was not aware of that.

611. Are you aware of the permanent charge which is imposed upon the town of Liverpool for the maintenance of the poor, who almost entirely consist of the lower Irish, by the change which took place in the law, giving a five years' residence the right of settlement?—No, I am not.

612. When you have spoken of the injustice to the Irish rate-payers in consequence of the removability of paupers, and you have stated that 1,208 paupers were removed in the year ending March 1854, have you any idea what amount of Irish paupers are chargeable upon the town of Liverpool alone?—No, I do not know what number are chargeable; a very considerable portion of their poor in Liverpool, I apprehend, will be Irishmen, of more or less continued residence in Liverpool, the labouring population being, to a great extent, composed of Irish.

613. If, on the one hand, there is some injustice to the Irish ratepayers, in consequence of these removals, is there not some injustice to be apprehended to the English ratepayers if the power of removal is entirely taken away?—I do not think that there is injustice to the English ratepayers in taking from them the power of removing into Ireland persons who are industriously employed with them in their community; I see no injustice in that, but rather the right course.

614. Conceding that point, still you have admitted that in the cases where parties come over to England for the purpose of obtaining relief from destitution, an exception should be made?—I think it very hard indeed.

615. You have mentioned a variety of evils which you consider attach to the existing state of the law; but when you were desired to suggest any remedies, I think the Committee might infer that in every case where a remedy was suggested, you seemed to think that it would be rather worse than the disease at present affecting it?—I hardly know any of the remedies which I could suggest which are not exposed to some objection, more or less.

616. And you see no alternative for getting rid of those evils to which you have adverted, excepting the abolition of the power of removal?—I think that the best course.

617. In case of the repeal of the law of removal, you have stated that you consider that stringent provisions should be made against paupers coming over from Ireland to England?—Against destitute persons coming to England for the purpose of obtaining relief there.

618. How would you suggest the means of establishing a test to distinguish parties coming over for relief, and parties coming over for work?—In whatever form the offence was defined, it must be for the convicting magistrate to judge; I cannot think of any better words than saying, that they come over with the intention of obtaining relief, and it would be then for the magistrate to say whether they had come for that purpose or not.

619. Could you possibly impose any restriction upon the power of a man embarking in Ireland to come over to England, whatever his situation, if he had the money to pay his passage?—The penal enactment would be decidedly a restraint upon him, punishing him for having come over for the purpose of seeking relief.

620. That is to operate when he comes over to this side?—Yes.

621. But he might calculate upon a great many chances of evasion of that penal

penal enactment if he thought fit to come and try his chance?—If he did not ask for relief he would not commit the offence.

622. But it must be perfectly well known to you that the habits of the Irish, and even of the better class of the Irish labourers, if not of themselves, certainly of their wives and children, are to make up as much as they possibly can in addition to wages by mendicancy?—By mendicancy, which is again a punishable offence.

623. Then you consider that there is some laxity in the administration of the laws of England which passes over the practices of mendicancy by the Irish parties?—We have a vagrant enactment in Ireland of the same nature against begging, and I dare say it is not very strictly administered in either country.

624. Supposing that law were more strictly put into force, what would be the consequence?—I presume a great inconvenience, in the first instance, would be the crowding of the gaols.

625. That would impose a very large charge upon the counties in every case where a vagrant was committed to gaol?—Yes.

626. That would be no remedy for the evil, as far as the interests of the English ratepayers are concerned?—No.

627. Do you think that if that law were strictly enforced, it would at once obviate, I may say, cure that habitual practice of the lower Irish to beg?—I have seen it done in Dublin, during a particular period, with very great effect; a strict enforcement of the vagrant law; but I believe that it was attended with the inconvenience of crowding the gaol, which would put the Government to inconvenience.

628. Then the only remedy which you point out to the Committee for putting a stop to that practice in England is the enforcing of the Vagrant Act, and the committal to gaol of the party offending?—Yes, there ought to be a sufficient gaol provision.

629. But may I not, in your own words, suggest that such a remedy is almost worse than the disease?—No, I do not think it would be if there were sufficient provision.

630. Does, in fact, the enforcement of that law in Ireland put a stop to vagrancy there?—It has done a great deal in diminishing vagrancy and mendicancy in Dublin.

631. Is vagrancy punishable by imprisonment in Ireland?—It is; and there has been a very large number of commitments by the police authorities in Dublin.

632. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Questions have been put to you with reference to the transactions of the years 1846, 1847, and 1848; can you inform the Committee whether, in respect of pauperism, Ireland has gone through a complete change, and is no longer the same country that it was at that time?—The difference is enormous.

633. About what number of persons were depending upon public support in the year 1847?—In the year 1847, when the Extension Act was originally passed, there were at one time 900,000 persons on the out-door relief.

634. And at present, how many are they?—Never more than about 1,500 persons.

635. And in the workhouses at present, there are about how many?—About 100,000 at present.

636. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know what is the deck-passage fare between Cork and Liverpool?—I think 5*s.* or 6*s.*

637. Do you know that it is more than that?—No.

638. Do you know that it is 10*s.*?—I am speaking of something that I saw in a printed document; it was of a past date, certainly; it was Captain Denham's Report.

639. Do you know that the deck-passage fare between Cork and London is 10*s.*?—No.

640. Assuming that it is 10*s.*, is it very likely that you would have a large number of persons paying that sum of money for the purpose of begging in London or Liverpool?—No, not at all likely, unless they were assisted.

641. Do you know, of your own knowledge, that in the years 1847 and 1848 there was a very severe opposition between certain steam-boat companies in Ireland?—Yes, I have understood that there was so.

642. And that that opposition has been entirely done away with?—I am aware that that led to an explanation of the fare being so low at that time; I do not know whether it is continued now.

643. You have said that 1,208 persons applied for relief in the last year to the port unions, as I may call them, in Ireland?—Yes.

644. Did you see the returns showing the number sent by the several parishes and unions in England?—I did.

645. I think you said what was perfectly correct, that that number was given as 4,800?—Yes.

646. I think you will find a note, saying that 64 unions and several single parishes refused to give any return?—That they had omitted to give any return.

647. Including several of those in the metropolis?—Containing a population of 2,400,000.

648. Do you think, considering the population of the parishes refusing to give a return, that it would be a fair assumption that from these 2,000 more were sent, considering that several of those parishes are metropolitan parishes?—It would add about 800, I think, to the number, according to the same proportion, and would bring it to 5,500, in round numbers.

649. You have only one-sixth applying for workhouse relief; from your own knowledge of the country and the habits of that class of people, do you think that 1,208 persons represent the real burden upon the Irish community or the community of these individual ports?—Many of those who went over would become chargeable to other unions; they would find their way to the union containing the birthplace.

650. Do not you think that a much larger number than 1,208 would remain a permanent burden upon those port unions; I do not mean through the operation of the poor law, but upon private charity and upon the general resources of the community; is it not likely that a very large number of those 5,500 would remain amongst the poor class of the population?—Some portion of them will remain, no doubt. A considerable number, I think, come back to England by one means or other; a certain number remain chargeable to the unions in Ireland, to which they became chargeable, the others go out and obtain employment or beg.

651. Is it not likely that a very large portion of them being young and destitute might be added to the criminal population of these several towns?—That is very possible.

652. Is it not most probable?—I think most probable, because I think it is the more worthless persons who are removed by the authorities in England.

653. How do your Board in Dublin act, when a complaint comes from a Board of Guardians that they feel themselves aggrieved?—If we think there are grounds for complaint, we transmit it to the Poor-law Board in England, requesting them to obtain an explanation of the authorities who have removed, or to make such inquiry as they may think fit; that is always attended to, and we receive some explanation in return: that is sometimes satisfactory, not always.

654. You say the explanation is sometimes satisfactory; that means, that it is sometimes not satisfactory?—Sometimes not satisfactory; generally, I think, it shows, as I have said, that the authorities in England have acted within the law.

655. When it is not satisfactory, what is done?—In what point of view?

656. Your object, of course, is to redress a grievance, I presume?—When it is not satisfactory in a legal sense; when it is supposed that the party was illegally removed, we advise the Board of Guardians that that is the case; that they have ground of appeal, and we tell them the course which they ought to pursue, which is to make a statement of the facts to the Poor-law Board in England, and obtain their consent to an appeal.

657. Have you known, that any of the Boards of Guardians in Ireland have ever expressed their willingness to proceed further with the matter?—They have gone on with an appeal in one instance; generally speaking they do not.

658. What is their principal reason; is it dread of expense?—Dread of expense, and the want of reliance upon the facts. Very often they can obtain no information, excepting from the pauper.

659. They cannot obtain any information in England?—In England they cannot.

660. They must rely upon the statement of the pauper?—They must.

661. But in point of fact there have been no such appeals?—There have been no appeals prosecuted except one.

662. Is it the fact, that of late times the Boards of Guardians have ceased to make representations to the Commissioners in Dublin, because of a feeling of despair that no redress could be had; do you know that of your own knowledge?—I think it very likely it may be so; still we have some considerable number of complaints continuously; but I think it probable that they find that the result of the complaint in cases of illegal removal is such as would scarcely justify them in taking measures.

663. You have proved to the Committee, I think, rather clearly, your own impression at least, that there is no possible way of amending the law so as to do real justice both to the poor and to the ratepayers of Ireland; is that your strong feeling?—I think that all the amendments which have suggested themselves to my mind are open more or less to objection. I think that some improvement of the law might be adopted, but, upon the whole, I should recommend the repeal of it altogether.

664. Is there a very strong feeling entertained amongst all classes of people in Ireland, as to the injustice of this law?—A very strong feeling.

665. Is there a unanimous feeling upon that point, or at least as far as anything in Ireland can be unanimous?—I think whenever we hear a complaint from a Board of Guardians, to whom paupers have been removed, it is generally accompanied with the expression of such a feeling.

666. Is not that expression couched in the very strongest language in nearly every case?—Sometimes it is in very strong language.

667. If the law of removal were repealed, so far as England and Wales were concerned, what do you think the feeling of Ireland would be, if it were not repealed, so far as the Irish poor in England were concerned; if the change contemplated the other day by Mr. Baines were carried out, what would be the feeling in Ireland if Ireland were not included?—I have no doubt that it would aggravate the feeling of injustice.

668. You are clearly of opinion that it would be sufficient protection to England if there were certain restrictions as to those whose object is really to beg?—Yes.

669. Have you heard since the commencement of the Act, nine years ago, every year many cases where poor persons who have lived nearly all their lives in England have been removed back to their own country?—My impression from the correspondence is, that there is that description of hardship complained of in a great many cases.

670. You are very clear as to the expression of that opinion, that that is most unjust?—I think so; it appears to me to be unjust.

671. Is there not a very strong feeling entertained upon it in Ireland?—I think there is a strong feeling.

672. Do you really think that there is any danger of a pauper emigration from Ireland to England in future?—I should think it very likely that there would be a flow of labour from Ireland into England, unless wages are more upon a level; but I do not apprehend an influx of persons coming as they did in the time of the famine for the purpose of escaping from the famine in that country, and to obtain relief in England; I think that improbable.

673. Is it not a fact that emigration to America, to the colonies, was not very materially diminished last year?—It was less last year.

674. But not very materially diminished?—Not very materially.

675. Is it still going on?—It is still going on, but I should think in a less degree than last year.

676. Do you know of your own knowledge that in many parts of Ireland there is an absolute want of labour; have you heard of that?—I have heard of it, certainly.

677. Taking all those circumstances into consideration, putting yourself in the position of an Englishman, do you think there is really any danger of a further influx of Irish paupers into this country?—I should not fear any inconvenience from it at all if I was a ratepayer at Liverpool.

678. Sir *G. Grey*.] Do you think that that want of labour would exist in Ireland if wages reached the same level that they are at in this country?—It would keep them from coming over into England; it might attract some Irish

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people back to their own country from England if there were the same level of wages; I think it would. According to present circumstances, it will be some time, I think, before the amount of labour in Ireland will be equal to the demand.

679. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it your opinion that the gradual operation of the Court for Encumbered Estates must have a material effect upon the price of labour in the country, in a more general employment?—I have no doubt it will result in a more general employment.

680. And must not it necessarily have the result of increasing the price of labour?—Yes.

681. With the increased demand for the labour, there must be a proportionate increase in the price?—Certainly.

682. From your knowledge of the country, looking at that cause, as well as at the emigration which is still going on, although in a diminished flow, is it not your opinion that the price of labour must rise in that country?—I believe that the price of labour will rise further in that country.

683. The Boards of Guardians in Ireland, I believe, have no official knowledge of the sending over of paupers from this country until some of those paupers have applied to them for relief in the usual way?—They have no knowledge.

684. You say that the warrant under which the conductor acts is never transmitted to any Irish authority; to any Irish Board?—It is not.

685. Therefore the Boards of Guardians only know of it through the applications of those people?—That is the only way.

686. Have you not heard of cases where the people who have been left upon the quays in Ireland, have suffered the greatest misery before they applied for relief?—I do not think they would suffer great misery there without applying for relief, and if it was apparent to the inhabitants in the neighbourhood that they were in distress, they would be told where to apply for relief.

687. Have you ever heard of their wandering about all night unprotected?—They are occasionally landed in the night, and they would find it very difficult before morning to obtain relief.

688. Assuming that the law was never exceeded, and that the parish authorities in England acted strictly upon the letter of the law, do not you think that there are so many evils necessarily incident to the operation of that law as would induce any humane legislature to repeal it?—I certainly think it would be in the interests of humanity, as well as of general policy, to repeal the law.

689. Colonel *Blair.*] In reference to what you have said as to paupers who have been removed, making their way back to England and Scotland, have you known of any instances of parties being removed, say to Belfast, and upon their arrival there paying their fare, and returning by the same boat that took them over to the place from whence they were removed?—I have not heard of any such case as that, but I have already stated what the system in Belfast is.

690. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You say that there is no appeal given in the Scotch Act to Boards of Guardians against a removal from Scotland?—There is no appeal.

691. Are you not aware that notwithstanding an order of removal from Scotland, and an actual removal, any Board of Guardians might have a remedy in Scotland by an action at law against the Scotch parish of settlement to be relieved of the burden of the pauper, and to get remuneration for all the expenses which they had laid out upon him if he was removed illegally?—No; I had not the slightest idea of it before.

692. Are you aware that by a five years' residence in Scotland an Irishman gets a settlement?—Yes, I am aware of that.

693. Do you find that that makes any difference in the proportion of paupers removed from Scotland?—I have not compared it with any other system; there is no opportunity, I think, of so comparing it.

694. With England?—There is something analogous to it in England; there is the Irremovable Act after five years' residence in the same parish; but the law certainly must be more operative in Scotland than the law in England in reducing the number.

695. Is there any difference in the class of paupers sent back from Scotland; do you ever have able-bodied paupers sent back from Scotland?—I cannot judge of that.

696. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you ever heard that there is a great difficulty on the

the part of an industrious man in Scotland to establish a settlement?—I am not aware of that.

697. Mr. *C. Bruce.*] You stated that you considered it as one of the great hardships to the poor, which induced you to be of opinion, that it would be better to do away with the law of removal, there not being some one to receive them on arrival?—Yes.

698. You stated that as, in your opinion, an inexcusable omission in the law?—Yes; and the one which most distinguishes it from the English law.

699. Do not you think there would be a very great hardship also in throwing upon English parishes the expense of sending a person to Ireland, when it might be very easily remedied by the Irish Board of Guardians doing their duty, and making it known to the pauper that he had a title to relief?—There is no such duty imposed on the guardians.

700. Might it not be more just to put the authorities in Ireland under an obligation to make the rights of the paupers known to them on their arrival; would not that be more just than to throw upon the parishes in England the expense of sending a person over to deliver them?—An officer might certainly be provided to go to the steam-vessels, and to take charge of the paupers on landing, but I think that very hard again; you would merely aggravate the injustice to the port.

701. Do not you think that the injustice to the port might be remedied with great justice if the pauper were sent on to the parish of birth, which is really chargeable, as we are in Scotland, to give relief to a destitute pauper?—Yes.

702. Would not that be very easily applied to Ireland?—It might be very easily applied to Ireland; but you would then have a law of settlement and removal. It would practically be a law of settlement by birth, and the port authorities would remove. There must be the means of redress if it is wrong; there must be the power of appeal, and we should have a system of removal and settlement with litigation established, which I should be very sorry to see in Ireland; and it would interfere very much with our general rule, which we are very anxious to support and to keep strict, namely, that a person is relievable and chargeable wherever he becomes destitute. That is the sort of objection which occurs to me against that remedy.

703. Then you think that the remedy which we have in Scotland in such cases would, if extended to Ireland, be a greater evil than the one under which it now exists?—I would rather not see it introduced, certainly, but if the law of removal continues, I think it ought to be done in the interests of humanity.

704. In point of fact, you think there would be more justice in leaving the charge of these paupers upon England than in sending them over to Ireland; if you relieve the port from the charge by doing away with the power of removal altogether, you would throw that charge of relief upon the English unions?—The mode suggested would do away with the peculiar injustice to the port, but still the injustice would be left of removing to the place of nativity a person who had passed a great portion of his life in another locality. The same injustice applies in the English as in the Irish law.

705. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Have many complaints reached you of hardship having occurred in removal from Scotch places?—I think not. We have received great attention from the Supervision Board to any complaints which we have sent there.

706. Colonel *Blair.*] Did you ever hear of any instances, after the warrants for the removal of persons receiving relief had been obtained, of those parties having offered repayment of the sums that had been advanced to them if they might not be sent away?—No.

Jovis, 18° *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Mr. Cumming Bruce.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Sir George Grey.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Sir John Trollope.
Mr. Liddell.	Sir John Young.
Mr. Dunlop.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. John Ball.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Maguire.

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES IN THE CHAIR.

Alfred Power, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

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707. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] YOU stated that you had had considerable experience in the working of the poor law in England, as well as in Ireland?—Yes.

708. In the manufacturing districts of England?—Yes.

709. You expressed in your last examination a very strong and unreserved opinion as to the expediency of repealing the law of removal altogether?—I did.

710. Has that opinion reference to the compulsory removal of paupers from one parish to another in England, as well as to the compulsory removal of Irish paupers from England to Ireland?—I have formed my opinion of the Irish question entirely irrespective of the question of the repeal of the settlement and removal law in England; I wish to treat it entirely upon its own merits; at the same time, I certainly am, and always have been, in favour of the abolition of the settlement law in England.

711. You think it would be expedient to abrogate the law of removal as regards England, irrespective of the hardship and inconveniences which you stated in your last examination, and which had reference to the removal of Irish paupers from England to Ireland?—Yes; there are some of those hardships which are incidental to the law in England; separation from connexions, for instance, and other points.

712. Is it, in your opinion, expedient that labour should be free?—Certainly.

713. Is it for the advantage of the labourer that labour should be free?—That it should circulate freely, it is.

714. Is it for the advantage of the employer that labour should be free?—Most decidedly, I think so.

715. In your opinion, does the law of removal, as it operates now with regard to Irish labourers in England, present an impediment to the freedom of labour?—I think that is not so much the case with the law of Irish removal as with that of English removal.

716. Is it your opinion that an Irishman coming to England to seek employment is not deterred or restricted in seeking employment by the apprehension that if any casualty happens to him, he is liable to be sent back to perhaps a remote part of Ireland?—When an Irishman comes over to England he does not, under ordinary circumstances, come with the expectation of being obliged to seek relief, but with the expectation of finding employment; and I do not think he contemplates the other contingency generally.

717. Is it your opinion that the law of removal at present does not operate as a restriction upon Irish labour in England?—Not to so great an extent, I think, as the English settlement law does in England.

718. You suggested that stringent means should be adopted to prevent abuse in the event of the law of removal being rescinded as regards Irish labourers in England?—Yes; I conceive it would be a satisfactory security to have stringent measures to prevent the possibility of men resorting to this country for the purpose of obtaining relief under the notion that relief is more liberally administered here than it is in Ireland. I think there should be stringent measures to

prevent

prevent that, and also to prevent persons inducing or assisting destitute persons to come for that purpose.

719. Do you see any great difficulty in magistrates ascertaining whether a person has come from Ireland for the purpose of obtaining relief or for the purpose of seeking employment?—I think there will be some difficulty in procuring convictions. Where a person has actually come over with the intention of seeking relief in England, and throwing himself upon the poor rates, it is very difficult to prove the intention, but it would be a strong presumption, if he came immediately or very soon after he came over, and applied for relief from the poor rates. Many magistrates, I think, would at once convict upon that fact, but if he remained, and obtained employment or sought employment, for a certain period, that would take away that ground, I think.

720. This ability to work would of course be but one criterion?—If he was not a person able to work, that would be a very strong fact in the case, of course.

721. And the fact of his being accompanied by his family?—That would be another fact.

722. The workhouse test in Ireland has generally been found a very efficient one, with regard to a man's industrious disposition, is it not?—It is very efficient, upon the whole, I think.

723. Do you think the English workhouse test would be applicable as a means for ascertaining whether a man came to England for the purpose of obtaining relief or employment?—I have no doubt it is very efficient; it works very efficiently at present in England. A different description of inconvenience, I apprehend, would arise from the repeal of this law from any which has been at present put to me by the Committee; it is connected with the question regarding the workhouse test. A great practical inconvenience, I think, is felt by large communities in England, where there is a great proportion of Irishmen, and it is this: Among that population there is a great number of improvident, worthless, and importunate persons who trouble the parish authorities from time to time. I hear that a great part of the relief which is given in Liverpool is given to their Irish poor. This provision for their removal to Ireland when they fall destitute, is a most important and useful check upon those applications, and saves the authorities in Liverpool a vast deal of trouble, I have no doubt, with their Irish poor. I take it, if a poor-law officer of Liverpool were to be examined by the Committee, the inconvenience he would complain of in having this law repealed would be, that he would have those hosts of people thrown upon him without the means of meeting their applications, except for this threat of sending them home to their own country. The answer I should give to that is, that if they had at their disposal in Liverpool a sufficient amount of workhouse accommodation, as we have in Ireland, properly classified and arranged, they would be no more likely to be troubled with the importunities of Irish poor in Liverpool than we are in Ireland. I take it that the labouring population of Liverpool have better wages, and are in more continuous employment, than the population of any of our great towns in Ireland; and therefore there ought to be among them, but for the improvidence which a good workhouse would check, a less proportion of indigent and destitute people. The accommodation which would suffice for one of our towns in Ireland ought to suffice to meet the importunities of the Irish in Liverpool.

724. Mr. Coode states in his report that in his opinion removal at the expense of the parish or the country, instead of being the means of repressing the vagrancy of the Irish, is a direct inducement to it; and he proceeds to state that it is equivalent to the public undertaking to provide for an Irish reaper more than half his travelling expenses?—I have read that passage, and have heard the same thing stated at second-hand from many quarters. I do not personally know any facts which show anything upon that point, but I have an impression that there may be something in it; it is only in England, probably, from the authorities of particular towns, that you could obtain that information.

725. He also states in this elaborate report of his, that there are various economic reasons which make him think it expedient that the law of removal should be abrogated, not only as regards England, but as regards Ireland; may I ask you whether, in your opinion, the same economic reasons which render it expedient that the law of removal as regards England should be abrogated, make it expedient that the law of removal should be abrogated as regards Irishmen in England?—I think probably some of those economic reasons would apply, though perhaps in a less degree.

726. Supposing the law of removal to be repealed, as has been proposed,

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as regards Englishmen, and retained as regards Irishmen, we will suppose the case, not an unlikely one, of two labourers employed, say, by one of the builders in this town, for several years in different places; suppose that both require relief temporarily, the Englishman is relieved in one of the workhouses here, and returns to his employment; the Irishman, under the operation of the law of removal, would be removed perhaps to a remote part of Ireland, where he has no connexions nor friends, and no means of obtaining employment; in your opinion, is that state of things consonant either with justice or with sound policy?—I think it would very much increase the angry and dissatisfied feeling which I have already described as existing in Ireland at the present state of the law; it would certainly have that effect, and it would not seem fair as between the two men.

727. Then your general view is, that the law of removal should be placed upon the same footing as regards England and Ireland; that in the event of its being repealed as regards England, it should be repealed as regards Ireland, and that measures should be taken to guard against the abuses to which you have adverted, and which are complained of in this country?—I should certainly feel that it would be very hard if the settlement law were abolished in England, and if the law of removal to Ireland were not abolished likewise, although they stand to a certain extent on different grounds.

728. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did I understand you correctly to recommend, in an answer which you gave to Mr. Hamilton, as a precaution against the great influx of Irish paupers into this country, that relief should not be given to them except in the workhouse?—I was speaking of it not as a precaution for preventing the influx of destitute persons into England; I do not apprehend such influx, as I said, in my former examination, under ordinary circumstances; I should rely with confidence on a criminal provision to prevent it. What I spoke of was the importunity of the Irish already resident in Liverpool; that, I think, would be a serious point if this law were repealed. I have no doubt the removal law is a most serious and important practical check upon their applications in this country; that is, the more worthless part of them, those who are importunate, and who ought not to be troubling the parish; they get rid of the worst of them when they have relieved them by sending them over, and they hold it *in terrorem* against the others; in the place of that, I should say that perhaps a stricter course in administering relief would be better. I am not acquainted with the present state of the administration of the law in Liverpool; I knew it some time ago; and there was a good deal of liberality, I think, and certainly not workhouse accommodation at all equal to the population of Liverpool, as we should look at the question in Ireland; and I should recommend that in order to supply the means of that check, ample accommodation to receive paupers in Liverpool should be provided.

729. In order that the relief might be given in the workhouse?—Yes, and more especially with regard to the able-bodied poor.

730. With regard to the penal remedy which you have recommended, namely, the infliction of a month's imprisonment upon paupers coming from Ireland to England for the purpose of obtaining relief here, have you adverted to Mr. Rushton's evidence, given in 1847, in which he stated that the attempt to enforce the Vagrant Law in Liverpool utterly failed, because, directly a man was put into prison, the wife and the whole of the family became chargeable to the parish during the whole of the period that he was there?—I have read Mr. Rushton's evidence, but it is a long time since. I think that very likely that had reference to a state of things in which the authorities were overpowered, and the law was thoroughly powerless; I mean, the Vagrant Law.

731. Had you adverted to the possibility of a recurrence to such a state of things in the opinion which you gave the other day, that a month's imprisonment would deter paupers from coming over from Ireland to England for the express purpose of obtaining relief here?—I think it would deter them, knowing that to do so was penal; and I think it important that such a proceeding should be made penal at all events. I have never said that I expect Liverpool will be troubled by people coming over in ordinary circumstances to change the Irish Poor Law for the English Poor Law. If they did, my proposition of the workhouse test would meet them.

732. What I wanted to ask was, whether, not with reference to a deterring effect upon the pauper, but with reference to the circumstances of the parish in which the pauper is found, the authorities could enforce such a law without subjecting themselves to the great expense of maintaining the wives and families

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of paupers so imprisoned during the whole period of the imprisonment, which would be a longer period than they would probably remain in the place under the existing law of removal?—The Vagrant Law is enforced in Dublin very effectively, I think, upon the whole; it has been enforced at certain times more effectually than at others. We do not hear much at Dublin of that inconvenience; the persons who are apprehended as vagrants have not generally wives and families attached to them, in the first place; they are people unattached, both males and females; the females are sometimes with children; but a man and his family begging and destitute would be referred by the police, and also by the magistrate, to the poor-law authorities. Such a case as that of a man, his wife, and three or four children, begging and destitute, would not be made the subject, I think, of a vagrant prosecution.

733. Supposing the case of a man and his wife and three or four children landing at Liverpool, and immediately applying for relief, raising thereby the *primâ facie* inference, at all events, that he had come for the purpose of obtaining relief, how would you deal with that case?—I would convict him, certainly; I would lose no chance of an example, because it would be difficult to procure one.

734. Would not the parish authorities of Liverpool be bound to maintain the wife and children during the whole period of the imprisonment?—They would.

735. And do not you think that that liability would deter them from enforcing the law which you have recommended as a remedy against the great influx of Irish paupers, in a case like Liverpool?—I think it ought not to deter them, because I think a few cases would produce a very great effect. In all our poor-law administration, if you were to judge by an individual case you would hardly ever approve our course, but in the long run that policy answers.

736. One case stated by Mr. Rushton, to which I wish to call your attention in the evidence of 1847, was this: "The overseer brought up a woman for begging, for being very importunate in the street; I said," Mr. Rushton being the stipendiary magistrate, "'It is a clear case, a very bad case; send her to gaol.' The overseer then said, 'She has six children; if you send her to gaol I must take the children, and it will be a great loss to me.' I said, 'If this is to be the process, there is an end of the Vagrant Act in Liverpool.'" Do not you think that that would be very much the result in the case which I have suggested, as one which might possibly occur?—In the individual case would produce a difficulty on the part of the overseer in prosecuting the law; still I would have it enforced.

737. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Judging from the operation of the workhouse test in Ireland, in your opinion would not a stringent application of the workhouse test in England be in itself sufficient to deter parties from coming to England merely for the purpose of obtaining relief?—If the object of the destitute man coming to England were to exchange the Irish Poor-law for the English, of course his motive would be taken away. I presume, if he were destitute in Dublin, and got himself removed over by some assistance to Liverpool for the purpose of receiving relief there, it would be because he preferred the English system of relief to the Irish. If a strict workhouse system towards the relief of the Irish were adopted in Liverpool, like our Dublin system, of course the motive would be removed.

738. The Irish have a peculiar dislike to the restraints of the workhouse?—They have, I think, as great a dislike as the English; possibly more.

739. In your opinion, looking at the administration of the poor law in Ireland for several years, has not, in point of fact, the workhouse test proved amply effective and efficient in Ireland?—It has been most efficient. It was only when we had increased the workhouse accommodation to a certain point, that we were enabled to reduce the out-door relief lists, and as soon as we found ourselves with room in the workhouses, the out-door relief lists in Ireland went down immediately.

740. Can you state whether or not, before an Irish pauper who seeks relief in England is removed, the relieving officer or the guardians offer him the workhouse test in England?—I think they very often have taken them into the workhouses before removal, but still I think the great majority of cases are those of persons who have obtained out-door relief, and are removed afterwards. They take them frequently in sickness into the workhouses.

741. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Are you not aware that a large number of Irish paupers, whose

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whose settlement is in Ireland, are relieved in the workhouses of England, who never passed to Ireland at all?—I should think a great many.

742. In cases of temporary relief, it is not the practice in England to remove the Irish paupers at once, under the provisions of the 8th & 9th Vict.; is not that so?—I am not much acquainted with what the practice is at present in that respect; I cannot gather it, I think, from the correspondence which we have.

743. During your practice as an assistant commissioner in England, do you not remember, that when vagrants were relieved by an order of the Poor-law Commissioners of that time, they were commonly relieved by lodging and food temporarily, and that the great bulk of persons so relieved were Irish persons in search of employment in England?—I know that there was a system of relieving formerly by night lodging, and food at night and in the morning.

744. That was the practice, I think, when you were an assistant commissioner?—It was so; it was beginning to be introduced.

745. You are perhaps not aware of the present regulations, which are very much more stringent than they were at that time, and that the number of vagrants so relieved has materially diminished in England?—It was in my time the custom to insist upon a certain amount of work in the morning, before they left the workhouse.

746. In that case, it was not the practice of Boards of Guardians in England, under the direction of the Poor-law Board, to transmit these persons to Ireland, and to put the Act into force?—Not in those cases of nightly lodging, certainly.

747. Or in temporary cases of sickness and accident, where the persons would be for a few weeks, probably, in the workhouse?—I think that it will be found in our correspondence that there are a good many cases where persons who had been temporarily disabled from sickness were removed; I think that is part of the hardship complained of in many of those cases.

748. In some of those cases did it not act in a contrary direction, namely, that parties who were disabled from poverty or sickness, and who wished to get home to their own country, got themselves relieved in the workhouse, with the view of obtaining a removal and a pass?—That might be so; but the cases which we have in that return, which are very numerous, have almost always arisen from the pauper's complaint to the guardians, and it is continually a part of the complaint, "We never troubled the parish before my husband fell ill;" that might be untrue, but, however, such is the substance of the complaint in many cases.

749. You have stated the cases of hardship which arise to Boards of Guardians at the point of debarkation on the landing of these paupers, and you particularly mentioned the North Dublin Union?—Yes.

750. Would not those hardships be materially obviated if there were some machinery to forward those paupers, when they land in Ireland, to the place of their ultimate destination or supposed settlement?—Undoubtedly; and if the law continues, I think that certainly it ought to be supplied; they ought to be put into the hands of authorities at the ports of debarkation.

751. You are aware that the Act of Parliament, under which these Irish paupers are so transmitted to Ireland, was passed prior to the poor law being introduced into Ireland at all, and that there was no competent machinery to whom these parties could be delivered on landing in Ireland?—The Consolidating Act, the present Act, was passed in 1845, after the introduction of the poor law into Ireland.

752. You allude to the 8th & 9th Vict. c. 117?—Yes.

753. That was passed in the year 1845?—Yes.

754. Prior to the great difficulties of Ireland with regard to the famine in 1847?—Yes.

755. Supposing the present law of removal were retained, would not such a machinery as that obviate all the hardship now inflicted upon unions situated at the point of debarkation of those paupers?—It would, if a document were transmitted to the authorities, North Dublin, or delivered over to them with the pauper, stating the place of birth, and if the power were given to them to remove those paupers to the place of birth, they would of course do so in most cases.

756. They would pass them on?—Yes.

757. With little or no expense?—They would send an officer in charge of them; that we should insist upon, most certainly; but we should then have what we think objectionable in Ireland; that is, a birth settlement and removal law;

as to the place of birth, we might be wrong; there must therefore be an appeal, and we should have litigation and expense.

758. As you allude to the appeal, you have stated in your evidence that there is a great difficulty arising from the nature of the appeal and the mode of obtaining evidence?—Yes.

759. Would not that be obviated if parishes or boards of guardians removing paupers from England or Scotland were compelled to transmit, in every instance, a copy of the warrant under which they sent the pauper, and the grounds of removal to the place to which the pauper was removed; in the same mode in which it is transmitted between parish and parish in England?—I understand that to mean before the removal of the pauper.

760. Before the removal of the pauper?—That ought to be made part of the machinery.

761. Of an amended law?—Yes.

762. My question tends to show that a great deal of difficulty, with regard to appeal, would be removed, provided the law was placed on the same footing between England and Ireland as it is between places in England?—That system would be, I think, *à fortiori*, desirable in Ireland, and would prevent expense in the removal back of the pauper in many cases, and it would ensure the cessation of any opposition before the transmission of the pauper.

763. It would give the power of appeal, which at present can hardly be said to exist, owing to the defective nature of the machinery?—The difficulty about the appeal is the tribunal, in a great measure; I do not know how you could have quite a satisfactory tribunal; in the removals now made from England, of course, the appeal would be to the quarter sessions, in England, of the county from which the party was removed.

764. Why do you object to that tribunal?—I should not, myself, fear obtaining justice at all, but I think there would be a sort of feeling in Ireland against the appeal to the quarter sessions of the county which had removed, and upon doubtful points of fact, and doubtful points of law, there would be a want of confidence, decidedly, felt by the authorities in Ireland.

765. Would that want of confidence exist, because the parties who had signed the warrant of removal would be a portion of the parties to beg the appeal; is that your ground of objection?—I do not entertain the objection myself.

766. You are aware that, of course, under those circumstances, there would be a further appeal to the Court of Queen's Bench if thought advisable?—Yes.

767. A case for the Court of Queen's Bench would be prepared with the same reference that there is in England?—Yes, I presume it would be so.

768. What would be the objection to that course?—That should be a part of the machinery, no doubt.

769. In fact, by placing the removals to Ireland, upon the same footing as removals have between one place and another in England, they would have of necessity the same redress as now prevails in this country?—I can only repeat, that there would be a feeling existing on the part of the Boards of Guardians, in Ireland, about the English tribunal; that is a fact which is known to those who reside in Ireland.

770. Do you conceive that there is any ground for this international jealousy?—I do not myself, certainly.

771. Sir *J. Young*.] But, in order to make this appeal equal, would it not be necessary to introduce provisions into the law of Ireland of which you would not approve?—Yes; I have said that we have very strong objections to a law of settlement and removal; a simple birth settlement it would be, which has never been tried by itself. We should find ourselves, no doubt, involved in litigation, and it would be mutual; because I have said that if this law is continued, you ought not only to provide for the proper transmission of the pauper and the power of appeal, but you must have a reciprocal system of removal, and, from the long operation of this law in England, there are, I have no doubt, and very likely to become chargeable, a very great number of English-born persons, the children of Irish parents, who would form the material for retaliating upon England.

772. Are there not considerable inducements to the poorer part of the population in Ireland to emigrate into the large towns, such as Belfast, Dublin, and Cork?—There is a strong disposition, which is shown more in Dublin, perhaps,

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than in the other large towns; in point of fact, since 1851, when out-door relief may be said to have nearly ceased altogether in Ireland, we have had a reduction, I think, from 280,000 inmates throughout the whole country, down to 100,000; but it is a remarkable fact, that the two Dublin unions have, during that period, increased, and very materially increased, in pauperism. I think that there is an increase in the last year of nearly 800 in one of those unions; it has been very marked during the last two or three years. With regard to Cork, Limerick, and Belfast, I find that there is an actual progressive reduction during the same period in the number of workhouse inmates, but it has not gone on at all in the degree that the reduction has gone on in rural unions.

773. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was that increase in able-bodied paupers?—No; there has been a great reduction in the proportion of the able-bodied paupers, both male and female; but I think the tendency is this, that people from the country, who are badly off, make their way towards the town, naturally from this motive, that it is a better field for employment, in the first place; in the second, if they cannot find employment, it is a better field for begging; and, in the last place, they are sure that there is a workhouse there, which is conducted at least on as liberal principles, if not more so, than those in the country unions. There is a great uniformity in the conduct of the Irish workhouses in the dietaries, the discipline, and the classification; but still there are differences, and I think, upon the whole, there is a predilection for the workhouses of the large towns.

774. Sir *J. Young.*] What is the number of Irish labourers which you mentioned as constantly resident in Liverpool?—It used to be said that it was 50,000 at least, but I think at this time it is a very much greater number.

775. Have you ever heard any calculation made of how much they add to the wealth of Liverpool; how much they aid the manufacturers and parties there?—I should think a great part of the work in Liverpool of the lower kind is done by the Irish labourers.

776. Do you suppose that the amount which might be required for the relief of the Irish in ordinary times in Liverpool would bear any unfair proportion to the amount of benefit derived from the labour of these people?—I have stated that I think they might be relieved, at all events, with as little expense as the labouring population in one of our large towns in Ireland, as they are not so likely to contain so great a proportion of indigent persons; and the same accommodation which is necessary in the large towns of Ireland, would be as much as would be necessary in Liverpool, and I think it is fair that Liverpool should provide that; it is not just to the North Dublin Union that they should be removed there.

777. Is it your opinion that if the English Poor-law was administered on the same principle, confining it to relief in the workhouse, as the Irish is, and there was an amendment in the law of vagrancy to punish persons coming over here merely for the purpose of relief, it would sufficiently guard England from any influx of Irish paupers?—There is no change necessary in the state of the law in England in order to effect the first of those objects. The parish authorities have it perfectly in their discretion to relieve to as great an extent as they please in the workhouse; I think that they might conduct relief, with regard to the able-bodied, strictly as we do in Ireland, and that they would not be troubled with the importunities of improper applicants more than we are in Ireland. With regard to the penal clauses, I think that they should be enacted as a security against such an intended transfer of the burden of relief from one country to the other, and that that should be a reciprocal law also.

778. Then is it your opinion that by a more careful and vigilant administration of the poor-law as it stands in England, and by a slight change in the law of vagrancy, there might be given to England the advantage of the abolition of the law of removal, without any apprehension of a great influx of Irish paupers from Ireland?—I think that those measures would remove all the inconvenience which I apprehend from the abolition of the present law.

779. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to the transmission of removed Irish paupers to the place of birth, is it your opinion that the introduction of such a provision would tend to excite in Ireland a disposition to extend that principle to other paupers; in other words, to introduce a law of settlement generally?—I should be very much afraid of the effect of the working of anything like a law of settlement and removal in Ireland, for reasons which will be found in the facts I have just mentioned, namely, that there is a tendency in pauperism to flow towards the large towns; and in those towns there is, at least I know in Dublin it

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is the case, a growing feeling of the expediency of a law of settlement. There is a growing disposition to have a law of settlement, and I think if it began, Government would find itself appealed to frequently for extending the provisions of the law of settlement, if the germ of it were once introduced.

780. It has been found possible to work the poor law at a time when the relief given was very considerable indeed, without any provisions for removing the poor?—Yes; it has worked, on the whole, I think, well, with very little impediment or objection on that score.

781. And you would regard any system of removal of the poor in Ireland as likely to injure the operation of a law which has worked well upon the whole?—Yes; I think it would impede the due administration of the relief of the poor.

782. With reference to any possible amendment in the system of appeals, would the common expense on appeals be very heavy?—As regards the appeals between England and Ireland, the proposition put to me of giving notice before the removal would materially diminish the risk of that.

783. But an Irish Board of Guardians could not protect themselves against a possible illegal removal, without either employing a person in England, or sending a person from Ireland to England to make inquiries and to examine into the case?—No, they could not.

784. Would not that cause a very considerable expense?—It would cause expense.

785. Is it your belief that probably the amount of expense incurred in such appeals would exceed the whole annual cost of removal, and the maintenance of the poor so removed?—It would go a long way, I think, to equal that. I think they would be deterred from taking advantage of the law. They are now unwilling to take advantage of the present law of appeal from the fear of expense.

786. Independently of the dissatisfaction which might be felt in Ireland with an English tribunal for trying questions of removal from England to Ireland, do you think it possible that English rate-payers might view with some suspicion the decisions of an Irish tribunal upon the questions of removing paupers from Ireland to England?—I dare say that would be the case.

787. Do you think it is likely, with regard to either one country or the other, that the system would work satisfactorily and harmoniously?—I think the decisions of the tribunal would not be without dissatisfaction, in that respect, in both countries.

788. With reference to a question put by the Right honourable Baronet as to the removal of Irish paupers, and the diminution of vagrancy in England of late, do you think it probable that that has partly arisen from the very much smaller number of Irish who have come within the last year or two to England on the chance of obtaining work?—It possibly may have arisen in some respect from that, but I believe that there is great stringency in the regulations in England regarding those applicants.

789. The evidence of Mr. Rushton, which was given before a Committee of the House of Commons, had reference exclusively, I believe, to the period of 1847?—I believe it was in reference to what had occurred recently before the Committee of 1847.

790. Were not the circumstances of the year 1847 entirely exceptional, and in fact without any example in the history of that country, as far as you know?—I believe so.

791. Do you think that even if such a calamity were to occur again as a general failure of the potato crop, such circumstances could ensue as did ensue in the year 1847?—No; we should be much better prepared to meet a calamity of that sort in Ireland now, from the greater extent of workhouse accommodation which we have permanently available, and which we could bring into play at once.

792. The number of persons on the verge of pauperism in Ireland has enormously diminished?—It has very much diminished, no doubt; there would not be the same material for pauperism as existed at that time.

793. So that it would not appear to you that any change of the law which might be desirable on other grounds should be impeded by an apprehension of a repetition of the state of facts which existed in 1847?—No; I think we ought not to legislate on any such apprehension.

794. And even if such exceptional cases occurred, do you think that they might be met by some exceptional temporary measures?—I think that they should be met by measures to be adopted when they arise, certainly.

795. Colonel *Blair*.] You say, that pauperism has diminished very much in Ireland since 1847; has it diminished in proportion to the population of Ireland, which has also decreased very much since that time?—It has decreased in a far greater proportion than the population has decreased.

796. Mr. *Maguire*.] Is not the assumption of a great influx of Irish paupers at a future time rather gratuitous?—Yes, I have said that I do not apprehend it in ordinary times.

797. Do you know, of your own knowledge, that public mendicancy has much diminished as a system in Ireland?—Where I reside in Dublin it has very much diminished since I came to reside there, about 10 years ago.

798. Do you know, of your own knowledge, that it has diminished much in other parts of Ireland?—I believe it has, without doubt.

799. Do you know that there is a general tendency throughout the country to discourage mendicancy?—I think there is a strong and growing feeling upon that subject.

800. Is there not an improved feeling amongst the poorer classes themselves in reference to mendicancy?—I have no doubt that that feeling extends itself to the poorest class of ratepayers.

801. Would not an improved feeling in Ireland act as a protection to English ratepayers to a certain extent; would not the dimunition of that kind of pauperism in Ireland necessarily protect the ratepayers of the large towns, and of the Irish ports?—Certainly.

802. You were asked whether the hardships of removal could not be obviated by some machinery to pass the parties on to their place of birth. Suppose a case of this kind; suppose that a working man and his family have been 10 or 12 years in this country, and that that man has never applied for relief from any parish or union for that number of years, but that that man has neither a settlement, nor has he established a bar to removal by living for any five years in any particular parish, would not the removal of that person, in case of sickness or want of employment, be such a hardship that no machinery would in any way obviate it?—That machinery of transmission in Ireland would certainly not obviate that part of the grievance.

803. Would it not be one of the worst sentences of punishment upon that man to remove him from a manufacturing town in England, where he had certain employment so long as he was in good health, to some remote parish in Ireland?—At this time a man removed after 12 years' residence in England would, very likely, on reaching the place of his birth, find none of his former connections or relatives.

804. Is it not most probable that he might be sent to a union in Ireland where he could find no employment suited to his capacity?—That might be so; there is a general demand now for labour.

805. If he were a skilled artizan, connected with the manufactures in England, is it likely that he would find employment in the southern districts of Ireland?—No.

806. If he were sent to a parish in the west of the county of Cork, say Skibbereen or Bantry, is it likely that he would find employment there?—No, not as an artizan.

807. Or as a skilled labourer?—No.

808. Is it likely that he would find employment in those remote places?—We hear that the artizans are getting on in the little towns in Ireland extremely well; the farmers complain very much of the price they have to pay.

809. How many miles is Skull from the city of Cork?—Eighty or a hundred miles.

810. Could scarcely any machinery obviate the fiscal hardship of the removal of a family from the city of Cork to the union of Skull?—It would be very hard, certainly, upon a man who has acquired skilled labour, to be removed from Liverpool to Cork, and then from Cork to Skull; I think he would have to go to the workhouse at Skull.

811. You were asked as to the law of settlement; is not there a general feeling in Ireland, that if the law of settlement were established, it would give rise to a very serious litigation between unions?—I think it would more, perhaps, between unions in Ireland, and parishes and unions in England, than between unions in Ireland.

812. When in full operation would it not be likely to give rise to as great litigation between union and union in Ireland?—I rather think that by the English

English mode of transmitting information and settling the point beforehand, you would avoid litigation between one place and another in Ireland, because you would have the facts made out before you sent the pauper.

813. Do not you think that the necessary operation of such a law would give rise to a good deal of jealously and litigation, which would interfere with the beneficial operation of the law?—I think it would be a great evil to introduce settlement in Ireland.

814. You have alluded to temporary relief, and applications arising out of sickness and accident; have there not been to your own knowledge many complaints from all parts of Ireland of persons having applied, for the first time, for parochial relief and having been sent over to Ireland?—Yes, there are many complaints of that sort, but, at the same time, I must say that when inquiry has been made and explanations received from England, they very often prove untrue; that statement about relief for the first time particularly.

815. You stated, on the first day, that in all cases the answers were not satisfactory?—They are not satisfactory in all cases, decidedly.

816. Are they always satisfactory in cases of the kind which I now assume?—No, not in all those cases, I think; still the authorities were perfectly justified, they were within the law in those cases.

817. Have you heard persons complain of this system, that after application for relief in consequence of temporary idleness or temporary illness, upon an application on the part of those persons for their discharge, the discharge has been refused, and the union has taken advantage of the chargeability of those persons to remove them?—Yes, you would find many cases of that description, according to the statements of the paupers; and I think advantage has been taken in many cases, of their coming into the houses, and they have been prevented discharging themselves. That was all fair on the part of the authorities, they were acting within the law.

818. Sir *B. Hall.*] Have any representations been made to the Irish Poor Law Board as to the state and condition in which paupers have arrived from Ireland in England?—No representations would come to us naturally.

819. Have no communications been sent to your office complaining of the destitute and miserable condition in which paupers have been landed at English or Welsh ports?—I recollect being aware of some such facts at the time, but I doubt whether there will be found in any of our correspondence any representations made to us officially from any parties; if they were so made it would be on our papers certainly; I recollect now, one or two remarkable cases, where persons were shipped in considerable numbers from the South coast of Ireland for the coast of Wales, and were driven back upon some other point of the coast, and were obliged to be relieved; I recollect that happening in the Middleton Union; that was a remarkable instance, but I do not think we had any complaints when they were landed on the coast, from the authorities in England; it is not done by Boards of Guardians.

820. Did you receive copies of any memorials, or were any communications sent to you from the Home Office, in London, in reference to the state in which Irish paupers were landed at ports either in England or in Wales?—I do not think there is anything of that sort in the present return of correspondence, nor would it naturally be included there, because the return relates to persons removed from England and Scotland simply; but I think it is very likely that those memorials may have reached us in the way you have described, memorials upon that subject from England, and probably that is the way in which I became aware that such things had taken place; I feel sure of this, that inquiries would certainly be made by us as to how far the Poor-law authorities of the place in which this was done, were concerned in it. I infer from the fact not having dwelt on my mind at all, that those inquiries resulted in showing that this was done by private parties, and not by any authorities over whom we could exercise any control; I believe that it is very probable that I derived what knowledge I had of those statements in the manner which you have mentioned.

821. What was the case to which you referred just now, of paupers having been returned to Ireland; was it a case where paupers were sent over to England or Wales and did not land, but were sent back by stress of weather, or were they parties who had been sent to England or Wales, and were landed at some port in England or Wales, and were then sent back again by the local authorities?—They were parties who being destitute and without the means of employment in

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Ireland, were assisted (I feel pretty confident that this will be the true state of the case) by landlords or the agents of landlords, with small sums of money and provision made to transmit them to England; by stress of weather they were driven back upon the coast, and came, into the port of Youghal.

822. Before landing in England?—Before landing in England; that was the one case to which I allude.

823. When was that?—It was some time during the famine.

824. Have any other cases been brought under your consideration, where parties have been sent over in the manner you describe, by local subscriptions, to get rid of them?—Yes, I have a strong impression that that was done in other cases; we have the fact, I have no doubt, upon our correspondence in Dublin.

825. Mr. *J. Ball.*] In the year 1847?—About 1847.

826. Sir *B. Hall.*] You have stated that you do not expect any great influx of Irish paupers to England, unless such a calamity should arise as that which visited the country in 1847, but that if such a calamity were to arise, then would be the time to meet it; do you wish the Committee to infer that no provision whatever should be made against sending off Irish paupers in the way which has been alluded to, to England?—I would certainly have such a state of the law as should embrace the conduct of persons acting in Ireland in that way; I would punish them.

827. Then what did you mean by saying that if such a state of circumstances should arise, when they did arise would be the proper time to meet them?—I do not think this law at all an operative one upon such an occasion; as I have stated in my former examination, it had no effect at all to meet such a contingency.

828. You say that you do not apprehend any great influx of Irish paupers again?—I do not under ordinary circumstances expect that persons destitute in Ireland will leave Ireland in that condition, for the purpose of obtaining relief in England.

829. But are they not constantly coming over?—No, certainly not; labouring people are coming over constantly.

830. Are they not paupers?—They may apply for relief possibly in Liverpool, and they may have it perhaps, but I do not think that they are destitute persons, or that they leave Ireland in the state of destitute persons.

831. When I say paupers, I mean persons who come over and apply for relief, or beg their way through the country, asking for alms and relief as they go along. Do you not believe that a great many people come over constantly in that condition at the present time?—I am not aware of that; I see people constantly going along the quay in Dublin to ship themselves in search of employment in England; they do not look to me at all dressed like people whom I should expect to see begging either in Ireland or in England; I do not know whether the professional Irish vagrant or mendicant goes over to beg in England rather than in his own country, I do not think he does; still there is certainly a strong widespread tendency to beg in this country. These very labourers whom I mention possibly may receive alms.

832. But do you believe that the amount of Irish mendicancy in England has very materially diminished from what it was two years ago; I am not speaking of the time of the famine, but generally speaking do you believe that the amount of Irish mendicancy has materially diminished in England?—I really hardly know; I have been a very little time in England; I have not observed it myself in places where I may have happened to have been in England for a few weeks together; I do not see any appearance of Irish mendicancy.

833. Do you believe that the amount of emigration of Irish mendicants from Ireland to England has materially diminished, putting aside always the years 1847 and 1848?—I have already said that I am not aware that professed Irish mendicants do emigrate from Ireland to England.

834. You say that you think there is an improved feeling in Ireland which would operate very materially against an influx of Irish paupers, what is that improved feeling, how do you define it?—I mean a diminished disposition to encourage mendicancy on the part of the ratepayers, extending down to the lowest class of ratepayers; they are aware that efficient provision is made to relieve the sufferings of the destitute in the workhouses, and certainly there is a growing feeling extending downwards to discourage mendicancy.

835. Would

835. Would not the simplest and best plan of exhibiting that improvement of feeling, and of stopping the Irish mendicancy be, to give the Irish labourers full and ample wages, similar to those which are given in this country?—It might have its effect, no doubt, if wages were better in Ireland, in diminishing the necessities of the most indigent class of labourers.

836. A question was asked you as to complaints of persons who had been returned to Ireland, on their first application for relief in England; and you stated that, on inquiry into those cases, you frequently found that such was not the case?—I think we have often had an explanation; and, in reply to those statements of the paupers, a direct contradiction, and a description of them as very troublesome people.

837. Do you think that, generally speaking, previously to the removal of Irish people who have become chargeable to the unions or parishes in England, very large sums of money are given in this country towards the relief of such paupers, rather than go to the expense of removing them?—I think in some of the cases they have taken advantage of a temporary illness to send them over. In many other cases, I have no doubt they have gone through a great deal before they sent them, particularly in Liverpool I think that is the case. We have had less complaint of that kind from the parish of Liverpool (although it sends a vast number) than from other parts of the country; and I observe that it is stated in the evidence given by a Liverpool ratepayer and vestryman, before the Committee in 1847, that the feeling in Liverpool was not to send over persons temporarily disabled, or requiring temporary relief, but that they would relieve them and continue them there, unless there was an ailment of a permanent nature.

838. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are not agents and landlords at the present time rather anxious to keep their people, than to get rid of them?—I do not think there is much desire to get rid of labour at the present time.

839. Have evictions from land very much diminished?—I have no doubt they have.

840. You do not hear of very many of them at the present moment?—I have not been in the habit of seeing the returns of the evictions.

841. How many unions are there established in Ireland at the present moment?—One hundred and sixty-three.

842. How many were there in 1847?—One hundred and thirty-one.

843. Therefore, there is a larger amount of provision to meet an emergency than there was in 1847?—Yes; there is a larger amount of workhouse accommodation; the permanent accommodation is about doubled.

844. Union workhouses are much larger than they were; they have been extended, have they not, in most cases?—The original workhouses have been extended in almost all cases.

845. And they are much nearer to each other, and more accessible to the paupers?—Yes, the area of the unions is less than it was.

846. Colonel *Blair.*] With regard to the influx of pauperism into this country, I understand you to say that you consider that the reason it has diminished so much is on account of there being plenty of work to be got now in Ireland?—It has arisen, no doubt, from the improved circumstances of the country; a greater emigration has taken place, and there is a greater demand for labour.

847. Then, if a man who has been employed in this country is sent over to Ireland, and he is a good workman or a good artisan, you think that he has no difficulty, generally speaking, in getting work in the same employment in Ireland?—It would depend upon the part of the country to which he went; he might be sent to a place in Ireland where he would not have such means; but there are, no doubt, towns scattered in different parts of Ireland where artisans would get very good wages.

848. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are there not many branches of manufacture existing in this country which do not at all exist in Ireland?—Yes, no doubt.

849. Therefore a person who might find employment here, would have no chance of finding employment in Ireland?—He might be very well at a loss in Ireland for the exercise of his skill.

850. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Supposing, as suggested by the Honourable Baronet opposite, that wages were to rise in Ireland so much as to induce the labourers to remain at home, what, in your opinion, would be the effect of that on wages in England?—I should think that it would have a beneficial effect upon

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the wages in England, because we hear complaints from Englishmen that the Irish depreciate their wages.

851. Mr. *A. Hastie.*] I think you said that, if the law of settlement were introduced into Ireland, you were of opinion that it would give rise to litigation?—Yes.

852. Do you consider that that would be the case, and that one union would endeavour to transfer its liability to another, when it was properly explained?—I have no doubt there would be litigation between the English and the Irish authorities.

853. I am speaking of the Irish authorities?—I have said that in Ireland I think that litigation could be got rid of to a great extent.

854. Are you at all aware of the operation of the Scotch law of settlement by an Act passed some ten years ago?—Yes, I am aware of that. As between one Irish union and another, I think the transmission of the notice of the removal of the pauper would have the effect of preventing the inconvenience. The only difficulty caused in Ireland would be as to the place of birth; that would be almost the only question upon which a quarrel could arise between one Irish union and another. But in England there is a law of irremovability, which would lead to very great expense in ascertaining the facts. The law is also at this moment in doubt. I have no doubt that, if we were to appeal, the question would be raised at this moment, whether that statute applied to Irish paupers, and we should have to go to the Court of Queen's Bench. I think there are always questions of law arising upon any statute that may be enacted, particularly upon the question of removal.

855. Do not you think that, in the course of a few years, the precedents with regard to the law would become so well defined, that in fact litigation would cease?—Past experience is against that.

856. Do you say so with regard to the Scotch Poor Law; are you aware that there was a great deal of litigation with regard to the law of settlement in Scotland, when that law first came into operation, and the litigation has now almost ceased?—I was not aware of that; it is a very simple law.

857. On the last day of your examination, I understood you to say that you thought that the authorities at the port where the pauper might be landed would rather be without the power of removal; that upon a pauper being landed at a port in Ireland, that port would rather not have the power to remove the pauper landed there to the place of his birth?—I think I said that I myself would rather not. Of course, it would be a relief to the port to have the power of removing a pauper if he became chargeable to the place of birth; they would not like to have a pauper brought to them, unless they had the power of removing him to the place of birth.

Mr. *Robert John O'Shaughnessy*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *R. J. O'Shaughnessy.*

858. Mr. *Maguire.*] WHAT office do you hold?—Clerk of the Cork Union.

859. How many years have you held that office?—Over seven years.

860. Are you perfectly acquainted with the working of the Poor-law?—As far as the union of which I am clerk is concerned, I am tolerably well acquainted with the operation of the law.

861. Is it an extensive union?—I believe it is about the third in extent in Ireland; the North and South Dublin are the only unions, I believe, exceeding the Cork, either in population or in valuation.

862. What is the population of the Cork Union?—167,000 it was in 1851.

863. Has your attention been frequently directed to the removal of paupers from this country?—Very frequently.

864. Is it during the continuance of your office, the time that you have been connected with the Board, that your attention has been directed to it?—Yes.

865. For a period of seven years?—Yes.

866. Have many cases of alleged injustice been brought before the Board?—There have been many cases from time to time.

867. Have your Board had many communications with the poor-law authorities in Dublin with reference to those cases?—Not a great many; there have been several communications with the Poor-law Board upon the removal of Irish persons.

868. Have

868. Have your Board of Guardians communicated with the Commissioners in every case of alleged grievance?—Not in a tenth part of the number of cases.

869. Could you state to the Committee the reason why the Board of Guardians of the Cork Union have not communicated with the Commissioners in Dublin on all those cases?—In some instances it was ascertained that the case of the removal was a perfectly legal case, and of course there was no redress to the Cork Board of Guardians. In other instances, and these were few, it was found that the removal was not legal, but that the process of redress would be so expensive that the Board of Guardians did not at all wish to undertake it.

870. In point of fact, have the Cork Board of Guardians ever prosecuted an appeal against any parish or union in England?—Never.

871. Have you within a late period given up the practice of communicating with the Poor-law Commissioners?—Yes, the guardians have.

872. What was the reason for the non-continuance of the representations?—The reason which I have stated, that they led to no practical result; the paupers still remained chargeable, whether the removal was a legal or an illegal removal.

873. Of course you knew that you could have no redress in the case of a legal transmission of a pauper; that was quite clear?—Yes.

874. But have facts come to your knowledge of that legal transmission of paupers involving a very great amount of injury to the poor?—Yes, several cases.

875. In those cases where there had been an illegal transmission of paupers, what steps did the Commissioners in Dublin advise you to take?—After the correspondence had concluded, and the Commissioners found that the case was one of illegal removal, which occurred in one particular case, they then directed proceedings to be taken in the English courts, under the sanction of the Poor Law Board, against the parish that transmitted the person. The guardians, however, conceived that that would involve a very large expense and considerable inconvenience to the Irish Union, and they declined entering upon that course.

876. Had the guardians any very strong confidence in the tribunal before which their case was to be tried, and by which it was to be decided?—I cannot say anything upon that point, as the guardians did not express, to my knowledge, anything upon it.

877. Was the probable expense which would be incurred quite sufficient to deter the guardians from prosecuting it?—That was the reason which was uniformly stated.

878. And is it the fact, that the Guardians came to the conclusion that it would be better for them to support the pauper for as long a time as the pauper might remain chargeable, than to incur the expense and the risk of prosecuting an appeal?—So they conceived, and so they expressed.

879. What is the annual cost of the maintenance of a pauper in your workhouse?—About 5*l.* a year.

880. When food is cheaper is it not lower?—Certainly.

881. It has been as low as 4*l.* a year?—It has.

882. To your knowledge, has it been lower than that in some of the rural unions in Ireland?—I think it is likely it has.

883. Then the guardians calculated that it was better for them to incur the evil, which they knew of, than to encounter an evil which they could not know of?—So they stated.

884. Will you tell the Committee, without any exaggeration, what is the feeling entertained at your board and in Ireland as to this removal?—There is a very strong feeling of its extreme injustice, and the great hardship which it inflicts in a great number of cases. I have never heard a second opinion expressed upon it; it is one of the very few questions on which there seems to be no difference of opinion in Ireland, that ever I have ascertained.

885. Do you think that the hostility to the law would be diminished even in case that law was never violated or overstepped?—No, I do not.

886. It would not be in any way diminished?—I think not.

887. Is the feeling perfectly unanimous upon that point?—As far as I have ever ascertained, it is.

888. The guardians have known of the Bill which was brought in by Mr. Baines some time since?—Yes.

889. Do they approve of that Bill?—Not at all.

890. Supposing that the law were abolished in this country, what would be the

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feeling in Ireland if it were not also abolished, so far as the Irish poor were regarded?—The feeling expressed has been, that it would be a great injustice towards Ireland; the Board of Guardians of the Cork Union forwarded a very strong memorial upon that subject.

891. There was an application, I think, made to your Board the other day as to the number of transmitted paupers that had applied for relief within twelve months?—Yes.

892. What was the answer which you gave?—The number of applicants were 102, and the number of paupers remaining in the workhouse were 73; that was for the year ending the 25th of March last; that was the direction of the Poor-law Commissioners, that the return was to be forwarded from March to March.

893. By transmitted paupers, you mean paupers transmitted from parishes in England and Wales?—Yes.

894. One hundred and two applied for admittance to the Cork workhouse?—Yes.

895. And there are 73 of those chargeable at this moment?—Yes.

896. Sir *B. Hall.*] Those 102 were landed at Cork?—Yes.

897. Mr. *Maguire.*] From your knowledge of the frequency of the transmission of paupers from this country to Ireland, and of the number landed on the quays at Cork, do you believe that that number of 102 in any way represents the number actually sent to Cork?—From what I know myself, and from all the inquiries I have made, I do not think it at all represents the number of persons transmitted from England, by the Poor-law authorities in England, to Ireland; I think it is greatly under the number of persons transmitted to the port of Cork.

898. To your own knowledge, were there not many in the course of last year landed upon the quays of Cork who did not apply at the workhouse for relief?—I am sure there were a great many; from intercourse with the poor whom I met outside the poorhouse, I have met with several cases of persons who never applied at the workhouse for relief, and who were sent over from England.

899. Is it your opinion that a considerable number have gone back again to England?—I am sure they have.

900. That a considerable number have also gone to distant unions?—Yes.

901. And to your own knowledge, have not a great number of those who have been sent from time to time from this country remained in the lanes and courts of the city of Cork?—I have met some such cases.

902. Have you met many from time to time?—From time to time I have met several.

903. Of your own knowledge, do you think that those people have swelled the destitute and the criminal population which all cities possess, and which Cork does possess?—Yes.

904. Is there any means of sending a pauper from union to union; sending one of those transmitted paupers from your union to the place of his birth?—There is not.

905. How many miles from Cork is Skull?—I think it is over 100 miles.

906. Bantry?—Eighty.

907. Is there a union in Castletown Bearhaven, or is it in Bantry?—There is a union lately.

908. There is a union in Castletown Bearhaven?—Yes.

909. Is Castletown Bearhaven 110 or 120 miles from Cork?—It is over 100 miles.

910. If one of those paupers belongs to Bantry, Skull, or Castletown Bearhaven, has not that pauper a great many difficulties to encounter before he can reach his birthplace?—Very many difficulties.

911. Will you describe them to the Committee?—In many instances in the rural unions, they are so anxious to administer relief only to those persons who belong to the union, that the relieving officers received, I understand, instructions to put the Vagrant Act in force against all persons coming into the union, and seeking relief immediately after their entrance into the union. I myself know cases of persons who were sent from England to Cork, and who endeavoured to proceed to their own unions; and they have been immediately; brought by the relieving officer of the next union, to which they applied before the magistrates, and sent back at once to Cork gaol. There were, some short time since, two persons who were going to Bantry, I think, and the first union they applied to was Bandon; the relieving officer there brought them before the magistrate, and they

they were returned the very next day to the gaol of Cork, and committed for vagrancy, though they said that they had only asked for admission to the workhouse.

912. Under any state of things, would not a hardship of that kind be very likely to exist?—I think so.

913. Under any state of things, is not a poor person generally at the mercy of an official, from what you know of Ireland?—Generally, from what I know of them.

914. Before I come to the immediate cases, which I understand you have, may I ask you something with reference to emigration; what is your idea of the number of persons who have left the port of Cork within the last 12 months as emigrants?—It is not a subject with which I am personally acquainted.

915. Do you generally know that about 1,000 a week left last year?—It is so stated generally.

916. In point of fact, do you think that emigration is likely to be seriously lessened?—It must be lessened by the great decrease in the population, but at the present moment it is going on as largely in Cork as ever I remember it; one of our principal emigration agents has told me that he cannot get sufficient vessels for the number of persons applying to him as free emigrants.

917. Taking the diminution of population into consideration, the stream of emigration flows on almost as broadly and steadily as ever. That is my impression.

918. What class of persons, to your knowledge, generally emigrate?—The industrious and well-conditioned classes.

919. Do they generally take their families with them?—They do; those whom they leave behind they assist, after some short period, by sending remittances. I am aware of a great many instances in which remittances have been sent to persons, both in and out of the workhouse, to the members of families left behind; and the general tendency of an emigrant is to assist the members of his family to join him.

920. And, unfortunately, is it not the general tendency of the lower class of Irish at the present moment to take their families to America?—Yes, they look upon it as the greatest blessing to get to America.

921. And might not the fair conclusion be drawn, that more generally those who are inclined to emigrate do so because of the number of relatives who are already in America?—I think so.

922. Then, taking every circumstance into consideration, there will be always a very serious emigration tide flowing from Ireland to America?—I suppose so.

923. As a matter of course, you are officially and personally acquainted with all the guardians of the Cork Union?—Yes.

924. They consist of a very large number?—Ninety-eight guardians.

925. A great many of those gentlemen are connected with agriculture?—The great majority of them.

926. And are, therefore, competent to give a very accurate opinion?—I should say, from their intelligence and experience, that they were.

927. Have you heard those gentlemen complain in any instance, or in many instances, of the growing want of labour?—Very frequently. It is a constant subject of complaint at harvest-time that they find it extremely difficult to get sufficient hands, even at the present increased rate of wages.

928. Harvest time may be rather considered as an exceptional time?—Yes.

929. But even at other periods of the year, is not there a complaint of the gradual diminution of labour in certain districts of the country?—They say that labour is scarcer by far than it has been, but I have not, in ordinary times, heard them complain of the impossibility of getting a sufficient number of hands; it is only in harvest and seed-time.

930. Is not the rate of wages gradually and steadily rising?—It has been for these two years past.

931. Have you heard that, even in ordinary cases, it has risen so high as 1*s.* 6*d.* a day?—Yes, I have.

932. The wages of agricultural labourers?—Not so high as that for agricultural labourers.

933. Have you heard of 1*s.* 2*d.* a day?—I have heard of 1*s.* 2*d.* the day; I have heard of 1*s.* 6*d.* a day paid to agricultural labourers; one gentleman within four miles of Cork has told me that he has paid as much.

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934. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] During harvest?—During harvest principally.

935. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the ordinary rate of wages?—About 6 *s.* a week.

936. It is steadily rising?—It is necessarily, for the price of provisions is so much higher, that a labourer could not support himself on the rate of wages which he used to receive.

937. Have cases come to your knowledge, so far as you could rely upon the statement of those persons, of relatives being separated from each other; of wives, say, from husbands, and children from fathers?—Yes.

938. Have you any one case where a child has been separated from a father?—Yes, one particular case of a child, named Margaret Hagerty.

939. Will you read the details of that case to the Committee?—The details are short.

940. *Chairman.*] What are you about to read?—These are some cases.

941. Did you take them out yourself?—Yes.

942. From the statements of the paupers?—From the statements of the paupers, and they were solemnly declared before a magistrate for the county of Cork. This case of Margaret Hagerty is not declared, for the child was much too young to make a declaration; she is only eight years of age. She states, that she "was born in the parish of Whitechapel, in London; that her father lives in Whitechapel; she was sent over by the parish authorities, and left upon the quay of Cork." She appeared then about six years of age, but from the father's statement, it would seem she must have been seven years. "She was admitted into the Cork Workhouse on the 27th June 1853." Her father has since written to say that he was not aware of what had become of her, but that he lately found out that she was sent here: he says, "that he gave Mr. Frost money to bring her to him, but she is at present too ill to be sent." The child cannot give us a clear and satisfactory account of the history of the removal. She had all the evidence of an English child about her, as far as appearance and manner. The father wrote to the master of the workhouse about six weeks ago, saying that his child had gone out and strayed from the person who accompanied her; that he did not know what had become of her, and that his mind was greatly distressed; that some person suggested to him to inquire at Mr. Frost's place to know whether she had been sent to Ireland; that he made the inquiry, and Mr. Frost examined the papers.

943. Mr. *Maguire.*] Who is Mr. Frost?—I believe he is the person employed by the Poor-law authorities in London, or one of the persons employed by them, for the removal of Irish paupers. Mr. Frost stated that he had removed a child of that name about the month of June 1853. The father wrote to the master of the Cork Workhouse to know if she was in the Cork Workhouse, and if so, he would give Mr. Frost money to bring her back to London. I was anxious to procure that letter for the Committee, but the master of the workhouse has mislaid it; however, I read the letter myself, and I state the substance of it. The child was very ill of fever and could not be sent. I have a letter that the father has since written to the same purpose, which if the Committee wish I will read.

944. *Chairman.*] Did you receive it?—Yes.

945. Purporting to come from the father?—Purporting to come from the father. This is dated, "London, 10th of May, 1854. From Cornelius Hagerty about his little girl. I hope your honour will let me know how is my child, or is she able to come here. I paid for bringing her here about six weeks ago, and I thought she would be here long ago. I paid Mr. Frost the money six weeks ago, and he is always telling me he will bring her the next week, and that week did not come yet. I am going out in the country in a short time; I am frightened that I won't get my child or the money. I hope your honour will let me know how is my child, Margaret Hagerty, aged eight years, or if she is fit to come to send her to me, and you will be paid by Mr. Frost, for he has the money from me these six weeks. Let me know all about her, if you please. Mr. Frost told me she was sick in a fever and very bad, and I wish to know is it the case. I hope by all means you will send her in the next steamboat. I hope you will answer this letter as soon as possible, and let me know all about her. I would have written long ago, only expecting her from week to week, and I went to Mr. Frost for the money I gave him, and I would not get it. I am ashamed and in trouble of mind about her. You would pity me if you knew my troubles. No more at present, but remaining your humble servant, *Cornelius Hagerty.* Direct to Cornelius Hagerty, of Three Fox-court, No. 2, Narrow-street, Ratcliff, Limehouse, London."

946. Mr.

946. Mr. *Maguire.*] Will you state the next case which you have?—"John Cotter, aged 61 years, states that he resided 47 years in England, 30 years of which he lived in London, and the last 17 in Liverpool; he has a wife and two children with him. Himself and family were attacked with fever in October last, and they were admitted into the West Derby Fever Hospital, in the suburbs of Liverpool, where they remained about five weeks, when sufficiently recovered they were sent to the West Derby Workhouse; they were permitted to remain only three days, when they were forcibly put into a cart and conveyed on board a steamer for Cork. He was married in Liverpool, and all his children were born in Liverpool." Signed by John Cotter, and solemnly declared before Arthur Percy Aylmer, a justice of the peace for the county of Cork.

947. Do you know this Cotter?—I do.

948. What sort of person is he?—A most respectable intelligent man; quite a superior labourer. His demeanour and manner indicate that.

949. Sir *J. Trollope.*] You do not state here whether he was taken to be examined before any magistrate or authority?—No, I took the principal facts. I have a letter in the man's own hand.

950. Mr. *Maguire.*] You know that he did write that letter?—I do.

951. Did he state to you at any time that neither he nor any of his family had ever applied for parish relief before?—He stated so.

952. And what was the cause of his application at that time?—Sickness and fever.

953. That he and his family were visited by sickness?—Yes; he stated that he sold his furniture and his clothes, and that he supported himself and his family from the proceeds of these. They were of course not very valuable and did not last them long; and he said that he was then forced to go into the hospital, and he was removed from the hospital to the workhouse. He states that they threatened to handcuff him if he did not submit to removal.

954. Did he state that he endeavoured to support himself on his own resources as long as he possibly could?—He did.

955. And he had never applied for parish relief before?—So he stated.

956. Will you read the letter of that man?—This was the application which he made to the Board of Guardians, and it is dated the 10th of May. The board was held on that day.

957. Sir *G. Grey.*] Can you state the date of his arrival at Cork?—It is very recent.

958. His application, in fact, was very shortly after his arrival?—Yes, it was at the end of April of this year: "The petitioner, John Cotter, humbly showeth, that he is a patient in the hospital since February the 5th last past, and that I am now restored to my former health through the Divine assistance of God. Petitioner begs to show that he has a wife and two small children in the house, not in good health, which I believe arises from being separated. I further beg to inform you that I have been 47 years in England, 17 of which I lived in Liverpool, and never troubled a parish or any other charitable institution until some time in last December, the whole family being afflicted with fever in October, which caused us to part with our furniture for a mere trifle, which did not last long; then we had to apply to our wearing apparel, which soon went also. Sickness kept raging until we were brought into the greatest misery, then a neighbour told my wife to apply for relief. She reluctantly did apply, and got an order for two shillings' worth of food, which we had to exist upon for another week. By that time we were all sent to the West Derby Fever Hospital where we remained five weeks; then we were sent to the union-house. On the third morning after we went into the house, I was sent for by the governor, who informed me that I would be wanted at the office before 11 o'clock; I accordingly went in the house cart, where I was asked to sign my name to a paper; I inquired what was it about, and was told it was to send me to Ireland. I refused signing it, and came down stairs and met the governor, who asked me, did I sign the paper up-stairs; I told him the reason that I did not sign it. He said, "Do not believe any such thing; it is not our wish to send you against your will." I told him, that I might as well be sent to Africa. He then laid his hand on my shoulder and pledged me his honour and word, that I should not be sent to Ireland. I said that I could not dispute the honour of a gentleman; I then went and signed the paper. I came back to the house, had some dinner; after which, in crossing the yard, I was informed that I was wanted at the gate; when I got

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there, I saw my wife and children standing crying in the yard, and the cart at the gate. We were ordered into the cart. We refused, and the deputy governor desired the driver to handcuff us. When I saw that he was determined to take his master's advice we then went into it; the master told him to take them with him, for fear we would be troublesome on the way. We got two small loaves and a little cheese before we went into the ship; we had a severe passage, which, I think, was the cause of my being ill so long. Had it not been for the kind and humane attention I received from the nurse and doctor, I am confident I could not have survived, as my strength was entirely exhausted. But now, gentlemen, I feel able to resume business if I was in Liverpool, as that is my home. So, gentlemen, I throw myself and family entirely on your kind feelings for a future support."

959. Is that written by himself?—That is written by himself; it created a very strong feeling of commiseration in the minds of many of the guardians.

960. When I say "written by himself," is it in his own handwriting?—It is.

961. Therefore he was a man who could read and write well?—Yes; and he was intelligent and respectable above his class.

962. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Is he still in Cork?—I saw him there on Monday, in the workhouse.

963. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is he a man who would be likely to find employment as the captain of a gang?—That is what I should say he would be suited for, as a gangsman.

964. At any rate he is a most intelligent and well-informed labourer?—That is my impression of him; he is a very superior man to the ordinary class of labourers.

965. Was that man connected with Cork in any way?—No, he did not say he was; he was not a native of Cork; he was from the west of the county of Cork.

966. And had been 47 years out of the county?—That is his statement.

967. It is not at all probable that he would have any of his relatives here now?—I think it very improbable that any of them are remaining in Cork.

968. If that man were sent on by a proper system of machinery to his native place, is it at all likely that he would find employment there?—I think not at all likely; and his own impression in his statement is, that he may as well have been sent to Africa.

969. Have you any other cases?—There is the case of Catharine Horgan, which has been publicly stated; but if the Committee wish I will detail it. "Catharine Horgan, aged 18 years, states that she was born in London, and never left it until sent over by the parish authorities about March last; that her father is in America, and her mother is dead. She has an aunt living in Whitechapel, 8, Chequer's Yard, Minories. In December last she was taken ill with rheumatic fever, and her aunt had her removed to the hospital attached to Whitechapel Workhouse." Upon closer examination she corrected that by stating that she thought that the hospital was called St. Luke's, and that she believed it to be the hospital of the Whitechapel Workhouse. I do not know whether there is a St. Luke's parish. It is most likely in that case that it was in St. Luke's parish.

970. Sir *J. Trollope.*] There is St. Luke's, Whitechapel?—Her impression was that it was the hospital attached to the Whitechapel Workhouse, "where she remained six weeks; when well and in a convalescent state she was removed from the hospital to the healthy division of the workhouse. After the lapse of three weeks she demanded her discharge from the governor, which he refused to give her; he then had her forcibly put into a cab, out of which she endeavoured to make her escape, but was prevented from so doing by two men who were sent in charge of her. She was then taken to a house in Wapping, where she was locked up and kept a close prisoner for a week; after which time she was taken out of the house (Mr. Frost's) by a back door and put into a boat, which took her to the steamer for Cork. On the arrival of the steamer at Plymouth she again endeavoured to make her escape, but was prevented by the man who came in charge of her. She states that during the passage from London to Cork she was very ill, and a doctor attended her and ordered her some wine, and the captain of the steamer ordered her into a berth. She arrived in Cork at eight o'clock on a Sunday evening, and the man who came in charge of her paid for her lodging for that night only and left her. She did not know a single indi-

vidual

vidual in any part of Ireland, as she was never there before, and she pawned or sold nearly all the clothes she had for her support for four days, and then she was directed to a relieving officer, who admitted her into the Cork Workhouse, where she is at present." She states that her father was born in Manchester.

971. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Do you know of her making any statement, or signing any declaration before any authority in London?—I have no information upon that. She said that she did not sign any document or make any declaration; that she refused.

972. Did she state that in your presence?—She did.

973. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Did she appear to be an intelligent and respectable person, as far as you could judge from her examination?—She has all the manner of an honest, well-conditioned, truthful young woman.

974. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you another case?—The case of Catherine Harrington was one admitted into the workhouse very recently, "a native of Kenmare, in the county of Kerry," that is a very great distance from the city of Cork, much over 100 miles. She is "a widow with four children; states that she resided 15 years in London, the last nine of which she lived in St. George's Parish (West). She was married in the parish of St. George's, Bloomsbury; her eldest child was born in the parish of Marylebone, and the other three children were born, baptised, and registered in St. George's Parish (West). About the 1st of January last she applied for relief to the parish authorities of the said parish, and she with her children were admitted into the workhouse of that parish, where they remained until the 18th April ultimo, when they were removed out of the main body of the workhouse, and put into a 'lock-up,' or a place called the 'tramps' room;' both herself and children were put on bread-and-water diet, and the following day they were forcibly put into a cab, and taken before a magistrate, who ordered them relief, which was not given to them. They were then conveyed to the Cork steamer, and forcibly put on board. Previous to her being brought before the magistrate she was asked by a relieving officer to sign a paper, setting forth that herself and children had no claim on St. George's parish, which she refused to sign. She also states that another relieving officer offered her a sovereign if she would sign the paper alluded to, which she refused." This is signed by the woman herself. She states that "her husband, Jeremiah Harrington, was a tailor, and worked for 20 years at Cole & Taylor's, 5, New Bond-street; he died the 8th of April 1853." His regular wages were 27 *s.* a week, she stated. She appeared to be a very decent woman.

975. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Did she state her husband to have been an Englishman, or an Irishman?—An Irishman.

976. *Chairman.*] You have no other description of that parish, have you, than "St. George's Parish (West)"?—"St. George's Parish (West,)" she calls it.

977. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Who prepared that statement for her which you have read?—I prepared it.

978. Did she write it?—No; she signed the statement; I took the statement from her own words, and it was then read by Mr. Aylmer, the magistrate, before she made her declaration.

979. Is she able to write?—She is not, well.

980. It was an accurate statement of what she wished to express?—A precise statement of what she did express.

981. *Chairman.*] I understand that in each of these cases you took the statement from the pauper himself, or herself?—I did.

982. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did you in any case supply any of the materials of the declaration, or did you take exactly what the person said?—Exactly what was said.

983. Was there any suggestion on your part?—No.

984. I think you have the case of a person named Harris?—No; the poor woman is dead.

985. Do you know the case of Ann Harris?—Yes; it was one of some cases that Mr. Maguire received.

986. Sir *G. Grey.*] Will you state what you know of it yourself, of your own knowledge?—There was doubt as to the correctness of the declaration which she made; she stated that she had resided for several years in London, and that she was married to a man of the name of Harris; this was denied, and I examined the woman when the denial was made, and it did appear from a further investi-

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gation, that she was not married to Harris; that her name was Macarty, but that he had received an accident from a fall, and was, I think, in the Middlesex Hospital, and she stated that upon his recovery they were to be married; the allegation in every other respect she repeated, and stated that it was quite true.

987. *Chairman.*] What was the allegation?—That she had lived 11 years, I think, in London.

988. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Have you any written account of her?—I have not.

989. Mr. *Maguire.*] Ann Harris, as she called herself, or Macarty, and her child were removed to Cork?—Yes.

990. Were they received into the Cork workhouse?—Yes.

991. Are they dead?—They both died.

992. They died of fever, I believe?—They did.

993. Sir *G. Grey.*] What was there peculiar in the circumstances of their removal?—I do not know that there was anything peculiar, except that she was separated from this man, who, she stated, was to have married her on his recovery.

994. With what view do you give that case to the Committee?—It was in answer to Mr. Maguire's question.

995. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] How long did she state that she had lived in London?—To the best of my memory, 11 years.

996. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Being a native of London?—Being a native of London.

997. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Did she state whether she had lived in the same parish or place for those 11 years?—No.

998. Sir *G. Grey.*] She was, in fact, a single woman?—She was, in fact, a single woman.

999. Sir *B. Hall.*] It was stated in the House of Commons that this person, Ann Macarty, was a Mrs. Harris; that she had resided for seven years in the parish of St. Pancras; that some time ago her husband, having broken his leg, went into the Middlesex Hospital; that she was compelled to seek parochial relief for herself and her child; and that while her husband was lying on a bed of sickness, she, his wife, and child were sent to Ireland, without his knowledge; are you aware whether such statement is correct or not?—I am not aware, except that she reiterated it in every particular, save the fact of marriage.

1000. Did she admit to you that she was not married?—She stated that plainly, and that she had been ashamed to own, when she had been previously questioned, that she had not been married, and that it was a feeling of shame which had prevented her.

1001. Did she admit to you that she had had any illegitimate children?—She did.

1002. How many?—Two, I think.

1003. Did she tell you that she had been previously relieved by the parish of St. Pancras, and by another parish?—She stated that she had been three times relieved, I think, and that at one period she was an assistant unpaid nurse in the workhouse hospital.

1004. Did you make any communication to any Member of the House of Commons that she was a married women?—I did; that is, I forwarded her own statement to that effect.

1005. That she was a married woman?—That was her first statement.

1006. You forwarded that statement previously to any denial on her part of her statement that she was married?—Yes; I think it was when Sir Benjamin Hall impugned that statement, finding upon inquiry that it was not correct, that she acknowledged that she was not married.

1007. Did you see any report in the papers of a discussion in reference to the case of a person calling herself Ann Harris?—I did.

1008. After you saw that report, did you send for the woman, or have any communication with her?—Yes.

1009. And you then ascertained that that which she had previously stated to you, was incorrect?—Yes, in that particular.

1010. Mr. *Maguire.*] In point of fact, were you requested by a Member of this House to inquire more minutely into that case?—I was.

1011. And it was in consequence of that minute inquiry upon your part that you got the information from the woman, that she really was not married?—Yes.

1012. But

1012. But did she at the same time state that she would have been married when that man left the hospital?—That was her statement.

1013. Did she also state that that man would have been able to support her?—She did. She made the same statement to the poor-law inspector who was appointed by the Poor-law Commissioners to investigate the case; a statement having been forwarded to the Poor-law Commissioners' Office from the parish.

1014. Have you in the house persons who have been sent from Jersey?—Yes.

1015. Have you two cases of that kind?—There are three or four, I think.

1016. Have you the case of George Berford?—I have.

1017. And of Eliza Wyatt?—Yes; George Berford is aged 21 years; he is blind; he states that "he was born in Jersey; his father is dead; he was an Englishman; his mother is an Irish woman. About two years since he was sent to Cork by the parish authorities of Jersey (in company with his mother) against his will. His mother deserted him shortly after their arrival in Cork." He states that "he believes she returned to England." He has no friends or relatives in Ireland, nor does he know a single individual there; the only reason he can assign for his having been sent to this country is, because his mother was an Irish-woman. He was never out of Jersey until sent to Cork by the parish authorities on the present occasion." That boy has been, on account of his infirmity, sent to a blind asylum by the Board of Guardians, and at a considerably higher rate.

1018. State the case of Eliza Wyatt; what age is Eliza Wyatt?—She is an old woman; she is aged 60 years; she states "that she resided 28 years in Jersey; that about three years since she was admitted into the Jersey workhouse, and kept there for about a fortnight, when she was forcibly and against her will conveyed on board a steamer for Plymouth; however, the person who came in charge of her from Jersey gave her 4 *d.* in Plymouth, and left her there; she was sent on to Cork, and on her arrival in Cork she sold and pawned nearly every article of clothing she had, to procure food and lodging, and when her money was exhausted she applied to a relieving officer, who admitted her into the Cork workhouse in June 1851." She has been an inmate ever since.

1019. Had that woman any connexion with Ireland whatsoever?—Never, I should suppose. She stated that she had never had any connexion with and knew nothing at all of Ireland.

1020. What is the next case?—Catherine Swiney, a girl aged 17, states "that she resided four years in Swan-street, Minories, London; that in September last she was admitted into the Whitechapel workhouse, where she remained until December, when she was, against her will, conveyed on board a steamer for Plymouth, and from thence to Cork, on the 25th December last. Her father is in America, her mother is dead. She has no relatives or friends in Ireland; all her connexions are in London." She states that "she has several friends who would be able to support her."

1021. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she state that she was living alone in London?—She stated that she was living with some relatives of hers in London.

1022. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did she apply for temporary relief?—She applied at Whitechapel for and received relief.

1023. Did she ask for her discharge, do you know?—She states that she did ask for her discharge, and was refused.

1024. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she say how long her father had left her?—No, I do not recollect that. Ellen Connor is a young woman, aged 21 years; she states "that she is married, and that her husband is in London; that she resided eight years in London; that on the 6th December 1852 she was admitted into the hospital of St. Luke's workhouse to be confined; she was kept there until the 27th March following, when she demanded her discharge, which was refused. On the same day herself and child were, without any previous instruction, forcibly put into a cart by three men and taken to a house in Wapping, where she was detained four days, and then put on board a steamer; the person who came in charge of her from London left her in Plymouth, and she was sent on to Cork; on her arrival in Cork she sold nearly all her clothes to procure lodging and food; after a few days, when her money was run out, she was obliged to apply to a relieving officer, who admitted her into the Cork workhouse on the 8th April 1853." She says that she sought permission to inform her husband that she was being

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being sent to Cork, and that it was refused; that he does not know where she is, nor does she know in what part of London he now resides; but that he is a man who has always supported her, and that it was for the purpose of confinement that she went into the workhouse.

1025. Did she say what her husband was?—A labourer.

1026. What wages was he earning?—I did not ask her that question.

1027. Did she say how long she had been married?—No, she did not.

1028. Did she account for her having been sent to the workhouse to be confined, having a husband in work in London?—No, she did not account for it.

1029. *Chairman.*] What is the description of the parish?—St. Luke's workhouse.

1030. St. Luke's, Whitechapel?—She does not say.

1031. It does not appear which St. Luke's it is?—No.

1032. Colonel *Blair.*] She does not mention the name of the street?—No.

1033. Sir *G. Grey.*] Had she got any marriage certificate?—I did not see it.

1034. Mr. *Maguire.*] Were the two Jersey people removed directly from England to Ireland?—They were, from Plymouth.

1035. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Were they removed by the Plymouth authorities?—I should say not.

1036. Was Eliza Wyatt landed, and then put into a fresh vessel?—She was; there is no direct communication between Jersey and any port of Ireland, that I am aware of; it was the London steamer that brought her.

1037. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did Ellen Connor herself declare that she was married?—She did.

1038. Did she make that statement with the full consciousness of the solemnity of it?—She was perfectly warned of the solemnity.

1039. From the opinion which you could form as to the manner in which the woman gave her testimony to you, were you led to believe that she was making a correct statement when she said she was married?—That is the impression which her statement made upon me, and upon Mr. Aylmer, the magistrate, a most intelligent person.

1040. As illustrating the case of the removal of children from parents, you have given the case of Hogarty?—Yes.

1041. Sir *G. Grey.*] That was the case of a child lost by her father, picked up in the streets by the poor-law authorities, and sent to Ireland?—Yes.

1042. Not taken away by the poor-law authorities from the father?—No.

1043. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have there been any statements of cases made to you?—Yes.

1044. Sir *G. Grey.*] Have you among that number had any instance of a case of separation of a wife from a husband, or a child from a parent?—I took a number of these cases as they arose; I did not by any means select them; I thought it fairer to take the cases and put them before the Committee, than to select any particular cases; I did not receive any particular direction as to the nature of the evidence which I was to give.

1045. Mr. *J. Ball.*] All those are cases which have occurred lately?—Within two or three years; some were transmitted in 1851, but the great majority of them are in this year:—"Elizabeth Keefe, aged 38 years, with four children, states that she resided 11 years in England, the last seven of which she lived in Holborn, London; all the children now with her were born in London. Her husband, herself, and six children applied for relief to the West London Union; they were admitted into the workhouse, where they were permitted to remain only nine days, when they were forcibly put into a van and conveyed on board a steamer for Cork; her husband deserted her;" that is the phrase, which is intelligible, of course, under the poor law; she said he left her, "immediately after their arrival in Cork, on the 7th May instant. She has a son and two daughters now in London, who are well able and would be willing to support her." This appeared to be a case of great hardship. She said the man despaired of employment in Cork, and he said he had endeavoured to make his way back to London, and that as soon as he possibly could, he would send some money to bring her and the children over. She stated that a portion of her clothes and of her children's were sold or pawned to procure the means of return to England.

1046. Sir *G. Grey.*] But you do not give that as a case of separation of wife from husband by the operation of the law of removal?—No.

1047. They

1047. They were all removed together?—They were all removed together.

1048. Did she state why they did not apply to these children in London, who were stated to be capable of relieving them, instead of applying for relief to the West London Union?—She did not state that; when I asked her whether her children would be able to support herself and the four children with her, she said, no, nor would she require it, for that she and her husband were both able to work, but that they were in that condition that they could give her considerable aid.

1049. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the next case?—The case of "Ann Holland, aged 35 years, a widow, with three children; she states, that she resided 20 years in London, the last 16 of which she lived in the parish of Whitechapel, and all her children were born in that parish; she received out-door relief from the said parish for three years, at the expiration of which time, in May 1853, the out-door relief was stopped, and herself and children were admitted into the workhouse, where they were permitted to remain for about nine months; they were then discharged from the workhouse, and were again placed on the out-door relief list. About six months since the out-door relief was stopped a second time; she then got temporary employment for a few months; but in January last she was again obliged to apply to the parish authorities for relief; on which she was admitted into the workhouse, and on the following day after her admission, herself and children were forcibly put into a cab by two officers of the workhouse and an inmate, and conveyed on board a steamer for Cork, and arrived in February last." She says that her daughter is in London, and is not aware of her mother's transmission; she is a young girl, she says, in service, about 17 or 18 years of age, and that she does not know of her mother's removal.

1050. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was Ann Holland a widow?—Yes; her husband was an Englishman, and died five years since.

1051. For how long a period had she been relieved altogether by the parish before she was removed, taking her in-door and out-door relief together?—Four years and three months, it appears. "Michael O'Connor, aged 42 years, states that he resided nine years in No. 4, Lincoln-court, Drury-lane, London; that his wife and three children are living in the same place; that in November last he was, through sickness, obliged to apply for relief to the parish authorities of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and out-door relief was given to him for two weeks; it was then stopped, and he was then admitted into the workhouse, where he was permitted to remain only four days, when without any previous warning being given either to himself or to his family, he was hurriedly and forcibly put into a cab, and conveyed on board a steamer for Cork." He is a native of Buttevant.

1052. Is that a case of a man removed without his family?—Yes; he states that his wife and three children are living at No. 4, Lincoln-court, Drury-lane.

1053. Sir *B. Hall.*] Does he state at all that he made any representation to the poor-law authorities that he had a wife and family?—He does not state that he did, nor did I ask him upon that point.

1054. Mr. *Maguire.*] What class of person did he seem to be?—He is a man of very good appearance and address. Mr. Cray, a magistrate of the county, told me that he was an extremely intelligent, well-informed man, and had filled the office of process server, I think, or clerk of petty sessions, I forget which, to the Bench which Mr. Cray used to frequent. He writes very well; his signature is here, and his hand is a very good one.

1055. Sir *G. Grey.*] How long was it since he filled this office of process server?—It was about ten years ago, Mr. Cray told me. He states that he had resided in London nine years.

1056. Has he got employment since he has resided in Cork?—No.

1057. Is he in good health?—He is now in good health.

1058. With this demand for labour existing in the Cork Union, why has not he obtained work?—He is only fit to be a clerk, or to fill some office of that kind.

1059. What had he been doing in London?—He said, I think, that he had been a clerk in some office.

1060. Did he state the office?—No.

1061. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Did he explain to you why he was received into the

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St. Martin's-in-the-Fields workhouse without his wife and family?—He did not.

1062. Mr. *J. Ball.*] His original application was from sickness?—So he states.

1063. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did he demand his discharge?—I did not ask him that question.

1064. He was sent clearly against his will?—He states so.

1065. Colonel *Blair.*] Did he state that he had been examined by any magistrate or authority here before he was removed?—He did not. In many instances they state that they have not been examined before any magistrate.

1066. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Did he state whether he signed, or was asked to sign, any paper?—He did not. "Mary Kiley, aged 30 years, with one child, states that she was three years in England, that she is married, and that her husband is now in London. About the 1st April, ultimo, she was taken ill, and applied for relief to the parish authorities in Birmingham, when she and her child were admitted into the workhouse for one week." She stated that her husband at this time was looking for employment, and was to have returned within a few weeks.

1067. Mr. *Maguire.*] He had not deserted her then?—That was her statement, though it was a legal desertion. "At the expiration of which time, without any previous warning being given either to herself or to her husband, she was forcibly put into a railway carriage for Liverpool." She stated that they asked whether her husband was in Birmingham, and that if so they would find him out, and she said that she believed he was not in Birmingham; that he had gone into the country some distance from Birmingham to look for work.

1068. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she say how long her husband had been absent from her?—Three weeks, as well as I recollect her statement. "She was forcibly put into a railway carriage for Liverpool. There was a man sent from the workhouse in charge of her, who prevented her making her escape, and on her arrival in Liverpool the man who was sent in charge of her had her conveyed to the steamer for Cork, and gave her and her child up to the mate of the vessel." More usually, in all the cases of transmission by the authorities from London, a person is sent in charge of the people coming over. It was the custom to sign a declaration at the magistrate's office, but that has not been done, I understand, for some years. Very often questions were raised when the men came before the magistrates to sign this declaration, and there was considerable public discussion, and observations were made by the Bench upon the harshness and severity of the circumstances of the removal, and lately he has discontinued applying for a magistrate's certificate at all.

1069. Mr. *Maguire.*] In reference to cases coming before the magistrates, have not those excited very profound sympathy?—A very strong feeling in the court.

1070. What is the next case?—"Mary Mahony, aged 40 years, with three children, a native of Bantry." That is about 80 miles distant. She "states that she resided five years in London, and that her husband is now in London; her eldest child's arm was broken two years since, and she applied to the parish authorities of Whitechapel to have him admitted into the hospital of the workhouse; he was admitted, and at the expiration of two months he was discharged: in a week afterwards both herself and children were taken up by a policeman in the street, and brought before a magistrate, who ordered them away." That was her statement.

1071. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she say what they were taken up for?—She said for begging; but she says that she was not begging, that she did not ask for alms. "She and her children were then taken from the magistrate's office, and put on board a steamer for Cork in July 1852. Her husband does not know where herself and children are at present." She also stated that some friend of hers informed her that her husband was in employment in London, and was earning 9*s.* a week.

1072. Did she state whether the husband was in employment at the time that she was taken up?—I asked her, and she said no, that he was not.

1073. What had he been doing in London?—He was a labourer.

1074. Mr. *Maguire.*] How long had he been in London?—Five years was her statement.

1075. What is the next case?—"Hannah Callaghan, aged 26 years, with two children, states that she resided two years in Wales and one year in London; her

her husband was out of employment, and she was obliged to go into the Whitechapel workhouse to be confined; after having been a month in the workhouse, she was, without any previous warning, forcibly put into a cab, and conveyed on board a steamer for Cork. Her husband is now in London, and does not know where she is."

1076. Sir *G. Grey.*] Does she know where her husband is?—She does not; I asked her that question, she does not know his address.

1077. Sir *B. Hall.*] Then that was a case of desertion, and not of separation?—In the first instance, of course the man must have deserted her.

1078. Then that is not a case of separation, but is a case of desertion by the husband?—It is so.

1079. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] You say she went into the workhouse for her confinement?—For her confinement. Her husband, she says, was out of employment, and she went into the workhouse to be confined; she was there for a month.

1080. Sir *B. Hall.*] She stated at the same time that she did not know where her husband was?—She now says that her husband resides in London, but that she does not know the house in which he lives.

1081. Are you aware whether she stated at the time of her removal that she knew where her husband was?—No, I did not ask her that question; I was not aware of its importance.

1082. Mr. *Maguire.*] At the time of her being sent over did she know where her husband was?—She said that she did.

1083. Sir *G. Grey.*] Has she endeavoured to communicate with her husband at the place where he was then living?—She said that she would not be allowed to send to let her husband know.

1084. You say that she stated that she knew where her husband was living when she was admitted into the workhouse?—So she stated.

1085. Has she, since her arrival in Ireland, endeavoured to communicate with her husband at the place where he was then living?—I am not aware that she has; I did not ask her that.

1086. Mr. *Maguire.*] She had no means of communicating with her husband when she was sent away by the parish authorities?—So she stated.

1087. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Did she state whether she was brought before any magistrate there, and signed any paper?—No.

1088. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the next case?—"Honora Swiney is a girl aged 16 years; she states that from her infancy she resided in Cardiff, South Wales. She is ignorant of the place of birth. She is an orphan, but has a brother and sister living in Cardiff, who are able and would be willing to support her. She was servant to a lady in Cardiff, and having been attacked with ague, she was obliged to go into the hospital of the Cardiff Workhouse, where she remained only two weeks, when without any previous intimation she was put on board a steamer for Bristol, and from thence she was sent to Cork on the 2d of November last. She has no relatives in any part of Ireland, nor does she know any person there. Her brother and sister do not know where she is."

1089. Sir *G. Grey.*] Were the brother and sister living at Cardiff at the time?—So she states.

1090. Mr. *Maguire.*] Does she state that she was sent against her will to Ireland?—She does.

1091. Sir *G. Grey.*] Has any communication been made to her brother and sister at Cardiff since her arrival at Cork?—Not to my knowledge.

1092. She stated that they were willing to support her; has any communication been made by the guardians or any officer of the union to the brother and sister?—Not to my knowledge. In many instances, when they state that their relatives can support them, I have asked them whether if they were communicated with they would be likely to send them money for their removal from Cork to the place where they live. The charges are so high that they say it would be quite out of their power; but I have seen many letters stating these facts: "If you were here we could support you, but we cannot send you sufficient for your removal."

1093. Did she state whether she had told the Poor-law authorities in Cardiff before she left, that she had a brother and sister able to maintain her, if she was left there?—She says that she did; she is a person of very decent manner, and has all the evidence of truthfulness.

1094. Mr. *Maguire.*] The port of Cork was the nearest port to Cardiff?—Yes.

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1095. What is the passage-money?—I think it is 10 *s.*

1096. Sir *G. Grey.*] Then it must have cost the parochial authorities of Cardiff 10 *s.* or 12 *s.* for her passage, in addition to other expenses, to remove her?—Certainly.

1097. Do you know what the whole expense of her removal was to Cardiff parish?—That I could not tell.

1098. It must have been considerable?—I think not; I do not think that the removal from Cardiff to Bristol would be an expensive removal, and the other would be only 10 *s.*

1099. Mr. *Maguire.*] Would not the guardians have the power of paying the passage back?—No; that has never been done to my knowledge; it would be illegal.

1100. In point of fact they never do it?—I never knew a farthing of the public money expended for that purpose.

1101. In a case where the passage-money is provided for a person anxious to get back to England, and who shows sufficient grounds for being sent back, is it from private resources?—Exclusively.

1102. Sir *G. Grey.*] What motive do you think the parochial authorities of Cardiff could have had to have expended 12 *s.* or 15 *s.* upon the removal of this girl from Cardiff, if she had informed them that there were a brother and sister able to take her off their hands, and to maintain her at their own expense?—I do not know indeed what their motive could be.

1103. Sir *J. Trollope.*] What number of cases are you prepared to lay before the Committee?—Twenty-seven cases altogether.

1104. *Chairman.*] If your examination were now adjourned, do you think you would be prepared on a future day to give cases of separation of husband and wife, and of parent and child?—I think there were such cases stated. Whether the parties are now in the workhouse or not, I cannot state positively.

1105. You have referred two or three times to the fact of there being such cases, do you think you could furnish the Committee with the particulars of them if your evidence were now adjourned until another day?—I think it likely; but I could not undertake to say positively, as I did not inquire particularly into that.

Mr. *Richard Longfield Jameson,* called in; and Examined.

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1106. *Chairman.*] YOU are a Guardian of the Cork Union?—I am.

1107. How long have you been so?—About eight years.

1108. You have heard the evidence which has been given by Mr. O'Shaughnessy?—I have.

1109. Have the cases which he has detailed been brought before you?—I know almost the whole of them.

1110. As far as you have means of doing so, you confirm the statements which he has made?—Perfectly so.

1111. From the way in which these accounts were given to you?—Yes.

1112. Do you wish to add anything to the evidence which he has given?—We thought it was better that the cases should all be brought forward by one person, by the clerk of the union, and we gave all the particulars to him to state them generally, as he has done to-day; but in fact the account which he has given forms a very small portion of the cases which have been brought before us. There is one particular day, what is called the Admission Board Day, and I scarcely miss one of those days, except in case of illness. All these cases have generally come before me, and there are a great many cases which are not at all mentioned in Mr. O'Shaughnessy's papers. In fact some of the cases have excited our compassion so much that we frequently have given 6*d.* or 1 *s.* apiece, and made little private subscriptions, because we could not legally do it out of the poor rates, and we have felt it so much that we have almost immediately sent them back out of our own pockets. From the appearance of the parties, and the way they gave their testimony, and their crying and everything, we had every reason to suppose that their statements were perfectly correct, and we have given them money out of our own pockets, and immediately sent them back to join their families.

1113. I suppose in almost all those cases you must have acted upon the statements of the paupers themselves?—Decidedly.

1114. Sir

1114. Sir *G. Grey.*] What were the circumstances of any case, in which you felt yourself justified in doing so?—Parties separated from their families, having lived so many years, not having a person belonging to them in the country; as they were perfect strangers, and knew no person, they did not know how to earn their bread; some had been in the habit of earning their bread by selling vegetables, and in a variety of ways here; they have told us, that if we sent them back they could earn their bread again; that they could go on in the usual way; that they had for many years earned their bread here.

1115. Can you state any instances in which persons have been separated from their families, and that has been the ground of your sending them back again?—That has generally been the case; they having had their connexions newly formed in England, and, in fact, knowing no one in Ireland, having been 30 or 40 years out of the country, and all their old connexions having died off, perhaps, and having made new connexions here, and we wished to send them back to the parties who really knew them.

1116. When you speak of separation, do you mean separation from a man's associates and acquaintances in England, or the separation of a father from his children, or a husband from his wife, or a wife from her husband?—It included both cases.

1117. Can you state distinctly any cases in which a father has been sent from this country to Cork without his family, and where you have sent him back an order that he might rejoin his family?—No, I cannot, particularly; I know all these cases, because I have investigated them a good deal myself.

1118. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Have you taken any pains to test the accuracy of the statement, by writing to parties in London, the parochial authorities, or others who have removed the persons?—We have communicated several times with the Commissioners in Dublin upon the subject; we have sent statements and declarations of parties; and the fact is that we consider the remedy pointed out to us so thoroughly ridiculous, namely, going to law with the parochial authorities in England, that we consider the remedy worse than the disease, and prefer the expense of supporting the paupers to taking proceedings against the authorities in England, though we have believed the statements of the parties to be perfectly correct at the time.

1119. The question asked you was, whether you had ever tested the truth of these statements before you subscribed to send parties back?—I am not aware that we did; the conviction upon our mind was this: from the appearance of the parties, their manner of telling their story, and their apparent candour, we took it all to be real, and it was from that, from the feelings at the moment, that we acted.

1120. You acted entirely upon their own statements?—Entirely upon their own statements, and they were always delighted to get back.

1121. Have you ever known an instance of a person so sent back to England returning a second time with an order of removal from England?—I am not aware of any; I do not particularly recollect an instance of that kind; I know numbers have been sent over, and I should tell you, if you will permit me, another way (which does not appear at all in these cases), in which paupers have been sent over; the relieving officers, even that class of persons, have felt so much for these paupers, that they have exerted themselves with the proprietors of the colliers going to Wales; they sail in ballast from Cork to Wales, Newport, Cardiff, and those places, and they very often get deck passages for these poor creatures, whose husbands and families are in Wales separated from them, on an odd time, from the captains of these vessels.

1122. Do your relieving officers send persons who have been removed from London, back in colliers to ports in Wales?—No, the relieving officers have not done it.

1123. You stated just now that they interested themselves to obtain passages in return colliers in ballast?—Yes, but all these parties are not London parties.

1124. Do you land London parties in Wales?—No, not that I am aware of.

1125. If they are sent back in colliers to Newport or Cardiff they must necessarily be landed at the port of destination?—I am not aware that any of these parties that I speak of have been sent to Wales; their husbands have been there at work; a great many men are earning 3 *s.* and 4 *s.* a day in Wales, and have been there for six or eight months or a year or more, their wives and children

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being in the Cork workhouse, and they are sent generally to those poor husbands, and not one of them has ever come back to us.

1126. Do you carefully investigate the port they have been sent from and send them back to that port, or do you send them to any port?—Not at all; these London parties, who have made these representations to us, have been invariably sent back to their families to London.

1127. Are the funds for the payment of their passage back raised exclusively amongst the Board of Guardians, or has there been any fund raised amongst other parties in Cork?—I am not certain whether the magistrates have subscribed, because the cases have continually come before the magistrates too.

1128. Are you a magistrate?—No, I am not; but I know pretty well all about them.

1129. Is there any fund from which they can obtain the payment of the expenses back again, other than the private subscriptions of the guardians or the magistrates?—No, not that I am aware of.

1130. Have any subscriptions been entered into generally in Cork, for that purpose?—I am not aware that any public subscription was ever made.

1131. Are you aware whether any civic funds belonging to the city of Cork, have ever been devoted to that purpose?—Not that I am aware of; I am a member of the corporation, and I know that a shilling of the corporate funds could not be applied for it.

1132. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do not you know that any application of the corporate funds to a purpose of the kind would be illegal?—Certainly.

1133. And do not you know that it would be quite impossible to procure from the body of which you are a member any funds to be so applied?—Impossible; it is illegal, and it is not done.

1134. Is not a member of the Board of Guardians who really does discharge with zeal the duty which he assumes, competent to form a correct idea as to the manners of the person who makes the statement?—I think he is, after years of experience.

1135. You were asked whether you communicated with the parties in England, with a view to test the pauper's statement, and you said that you did not?—Not that I am aware of.

1136. Is not this the reason, that from the perfect hopelessness of obtaining relief, you gave up the practice of at all substantiating the statement of the pauper?—Yes, we ceased from any applications to the Poor-law Commissioners about it.

1137. *Chairman.*] Did you return the parties immediately?—No; they have been in the house a long time, and many of them are there now.

1138. Did you return them merely upon a view of the hardship of the case, without considering whether the proceeding, in fact, was legal or not?—We believed their story, and believed that they had been very harshly and illegally dealt with, when we made a subscription of a shilling apiece or something of that sort, for a deck passage.

1139. What sort of illegalities were there?—I would consider it illegal if any person who had resided 10, 15, or 20 years, or 30 years, as I believe many of them had done, should be taken forcibly and put on board ship, and sent to Ireland. I believe the law of settlement in England entitles them to relief here.

1140. Do you think that if a person had resided a length of time in England, and less than five years in the last parish, he could not be legally removed?—I believe it must be five years.

1141. Did you consider that?—We considered that in almost every case (it may have been an odd case) it had exceeded five years.

1142. In England, not five years in the same parish?—By their own declarations you will find that they in most cases stated that they had been over five years in one parish.

1143. The last five years?—I do not know.

1144. You did not consider that?—I do not know so particularly as that.

1145. Mr. *Maguire.*] Even supposing that the transmission of a pauper was perfectly legal; that there was no bar to removal, and that that pauper had lived in London by his own industry, say for ten or fifteen years, though having gone from parish to parish, what is the opinion entertained towards that in the city of Cork?—It seems a very harsh proceeding, and very hard upon us.

1146. Is

1146. Is it not considered both very harsh and very unjust?—Very much so.

1147. Is it also considered very cruel towards the person himself?—Decidedly; it is continually spoken of in Cork.

1148. Have you an accurate knowledge of the South and West of Ireland; are there any manufactures there?—Very few.

1149. Is it not generally lamented that there is almost a total absence of manufacturing industry in the South and West of Ireland?—Yes.

1150. Therefore, to your own knowledge, persons are frequently removed from this country to Ireland who cannot, by any possible means, find employment for their labour in that country?—I should think so.

1151. Do you know, of your own knowledge, that there is considerable emigration going on now from the port of Cork?—Very great.

1152. Does it reach, to your own knowledge, 1,000 a week?—So I understand from a gentleman connected with the Cork Steam Packet Company, and it is the general opinion.

1153. Is it scarcely possible that you could have better authority upon the subject?—Certainly not; I believe it is generally well understood and known that that is about the amount; sometimes 700, 800, 1,000, and 1,200 in the last month.

1154. Did you hear that 50,000 have left the port of Cork last year, or about from 40,000 to 50,000?—I never heard the annual sum, because emigration does not go on equally the whole year.

1155. You, of course, have frequent conversations with the rural guardians and the *ex-officio* guardians of the union?—Yes.

1156. What is their opinion as to the condition of the country at the present moment?—In many parts of the country they have been complaining very much of want of labour, particularly, to the West, in the harvest time they are very badly off, and say that they cannot get able-bodied labourers in the country, and that they are frequently obliged to employ women to do things which men were always in the habit of doing; that is often spoken of.

1157. Are wages gradually rising?—Sensibly.

1158. What, in your opinion, is the average rate of wages at this moment?—Some of the gentlemen that pay what they call money wages, weekly wages, and no provision, in the parts of the country where they were in the habit of giving 4*s.* before, are obliged to give 6*s.*, and 7*s.*, and 8*s.*, in some places, and 9*s.* in others. Some localities are more distressed for labour than others. Other parties, perhaps, give them their feeding; they have them in the house and give them, perhaps, 2*s.* 6*d.* in the week in money, and their support.

1159. Do you know at all the deck fare between Cork and Liverpool?—It was 10*s.*, but in consequence of the dearness of coal, 12*s.* is the fare now.

1160. Do you think it likely that the fare will diminish?—There is no prospect of a reduction in coal, and of course there is no prospect of a reduction of fare.

1161. Do you know that the fare between London and Cork is 12*s.* 6*d.*?—It is about the same, I think.

1162. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Is there the practice of paying for labour in conacre?—That is in a great measure done away with in our district; people are coming every day more to the money payment or feeding, and giving a smaller money payment in consequence of the food.

1163. Sir *G. Grey.*] What class of persons are those that you have sent back in the way you have described; have they been men, women, or children, or whole families?—Women and children, whose male friends were here; I do not remember ever sending a man back.

1164. Have not men been removed from this country to Cork?—Not a great many; it is mostly women and children.

1165. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are you able to say whether, independently of those who are assisted by guardians or others in Cork, a good many find their way back to England in one mode or another?—I have no doubt of it.

1166. Besides the class of people who are removed from their friends or from their place of occupation in England, do you think that a certain number of people who merely want to find their way back to Ireland get assisted by the guardians in England, and get a passage home in that way?—I have no information upon that.

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1167. Are you in the habit of seeing the class of people who are removed and come over, as they are landed?—I see them in a very short time after they are landed, very often.

1168. Have you any means of knowing whether a good many are landed who do not make any application for relief after their arrival?—There is no question of it. There are two parties, a man of the name of Frost, and another whose name I forget, who were employed by the London authorities generally to take these people over. We have had so many complaints, that I recollect we had even Frost up very lately before one of the committees of the workhouse, the House, or Visiting Committee, on which I am. I have heard repeatedly that he has got money from the authorities in England; that supposing a man has been going to Skibbereen, he has got what is called mileage-money to send that man off; but instead of his doing so, he has given him 1 *s.* or so on the quays of Cork, and pocketed the remainder of the money.

1169. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you mean to say that Frost is alleged to have received mileage money from the union in London to pay the expense of the pauper's conveyance to the place of his birth?—That was reported; I do not know that it was the fact; I asked him the question a few days ago in the workhouse whether it was the fact or not; I told him it was supposed that money, which had been given him to transmit distant paupers to their homes, was not fairly given. He said that, as far as he could be answerable, he always did so; but I know, at all events, that great numbers go on by railroad to other unions; whether he sends them or not I do not know.

1170. Therefore your opinion is, that the unions in London make ample provision for the conveyance of these paupers?—That is what is said.

1171. Do you think there is any charge to be brought against the unions in London for not making sufficient provision for the conveyance of these people home?—I understand that these two parties get so much a head; it is reported that it is so.

1172. It is reported that they get that from the union or parish by which the paupers are removed in this country?—Yes, so I understand; what I have always understood is this, that when parties are removed by the Commissioners here, these men get so much a head to feed these parties on their way to Cork. Sometimes the parties die: I have understood that these men feed them on the way to Cork, but leave them there.

1173. I understood you to say that you have heard it reported that the parishes or unions in England have made a provision for conveying the paupers beyond Cork to the place of their birth?—There is a report to that effect, and I asked Frost the question; I was anxious to ascertain it.

1174. What was Frost's answer?—Frost said that he always sent forward any person whom he was desired to send forward.

1175. Did he say whether the means were provided by the unions or parishes in London to send the paupers forward to the place of their destination?—No.

1176. Then he gave you no reply to your question?—No.

1177. Where does Frost reside?—In London.

1178. Mr. *Maguire.*] You have alluded to subscriptions having been made up to send persons to Wales; are those persons who are sent to Wales, the wives and daughters of persons employed in the collieries, or elsewhere in Wales?—Yes, many of them. The men have been stated to have good wages, 3 *s.* or 4 *s.* a day. The families have been in the workhouse; we make no complaint about it, but we have sent over parties to their husbands, knowing that they were earning good wages and able to support their families, and that they have no right to allow their wives to remain with us.

1179. Sir *George Grey.*] Do you mean that you have had statements from these paupers, that their husbands or fathers were earning 3 *s.* or 4 *s.* a day whilst their wives and children were in the workhouse?—Yes.

1180. Mr. *Maguire.*] Has mendicancy been very much discouraged of late in the south of Ireland?—Decidedly.

1181. Is it particularly discouraged in the City of Cork?—That is pretty clear.

1182. Is there not a great feeling upon the part of the very poor classes, as to the shame and disgrace of mendicancy, which did not exist years ago?—I consider that it is dying out very much; we do not see one beggar in the streets of Cork now, I think, for 20 that we saw a few years ago.

1183. Would

1183. Would not the suppression of mendicancy be likely also to prevent that influx of paupers to England, which did happen some time since?—We consider that every family which emigrates of course renders the possibility of pauperism so much the less; it takes away the possibility of so much pauperism arising.

1184. Is the discouragement of mendicancy in Ireland likely to act favourably, so far as the English ratepayers are concerned?—Certainly.

1185. Is there not a greater desire to procure employment, however humble, than there was in former times?—I think there is. That old pauper class which we had in Cork, and I suppose in other parts of Ireland, is dying off very fast. The deaths in our workhouse of that particular class have been very numerous; they are worn-out old mendicants who have died off.

1186. From your own knowledge of the resources of the very poor class, is it at all likely that any large number of persons at any time would be able to make their way to England, by paying their passage-money?—First of all, I do not suppose that that class of persons would be able to raise the money to do it.

1187. In fact, it is sometimes very difficult for an industrious man to raise as much money as pays his expenses to any port in England?—Certainly.

1188. And is it very likely that people in Cork, for example, would contribute towards the migration of a mere vagrant?—Not at all.

1189. I believe you know as a fact, that there did exist a very violent and protracted opposition between certain steamboat companies in Ireland, some years since?—Yes.

1190. And that the fares were low?—They took them for anything; 1*s.* or 2*s.* 6*d.*

1191. I believe the fare between London and Cork was as low as 1*s.*?—They took them almost for anything.

1192. Owing to the nature of the struggle?—Yes.

1193. But all this opposition has been entirely done away with now?—Yes; there is nothing of the kind, and has not been for a considerable time.

1194. The fares have risen to a standard which is not likely to be lowered?—Certainly not.

1195. Put yourself for a moment in the position of an English ratepayer; from your knowledge of the state of things in Ireland, and the difficulty of a mere vagrant raising the price of his passage now, would you have any fear of a pauper migration from Ireland to this country?—Certainly not; we have a good many English at this moment in our house, that we are supporting English paupers who have been taken ill in Cork, who are soldiers' wives; Cork is a great port of embarkation, and when the regiments are embarking, the wife and child of the English soldier are left there. The law obliges us to take them, and we obey the law; there is no law of settlement; I should be very happy if we could send them back here, but we cannot.

1196. Sir *B. Hall.*] How do you become acquainted with the fact, that persons desire to be returned back again to England, having been landed at Cork?—The parties have gone to the workhouse, and have applied to us, and have made these statements, and they have made them in such a way as left no doubt at all upon our minds that the statement which they gave was correct; of course we could not investigate the case which we had only that moment heard.

1197. Then the parties have come to the workhouse, and after you have heard the case, and they have expressed a desire to be returned back again to England, you have taken the case into consideration, and sent them back, that is to say, some of them?—It is not exactly taking the question into consideration. One will say, "This is really a case of desperate hardship to this poor woman and her children; we cannot give them money out of the poor rates. Come, let us make up a little subscription"; and occasionally we have done that; not generally speaking, because it would take too much money to send all the cases back; but we have really felt for some parties so much that we have done it.

1198. Can you give the Committee any account of the numbers which you have sent back in the course of the last twelvemonth?—I cannot tell you; I have never kept any account of it.

1199. Can you give any proximate number of those whom you have sent back to England or Wales?—I really cannot say, I have no account whatsoever. As to the parties sent to Wales, they are the wives and children of persons working there.

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1200. Can you give the Committee any proximate number of the persons who have been sent back to England or Wales, having been landed previously at Cork? —There are a number of cases; there is Plymouth, and there are those Jersey cases; we have not sent them to Wales, excepting perhaps in the solitary cases of Welch parties.

1201. Have you sent any to Wales in the course of the last twelve months?—Not as paupers; but we have sent the wives and children of parties, who we knew perfectly well were earning 3*s.* or 4*s.* a day, and the women petitioned the board, saying that their husbands could support them

1202. Have you sent any parties back to Wales who have been landed at Cork?—Not that I am aware of; the question refers to those who have been sent over as paupers from Wales.

1203. Those who have been sent over as paupers from Wales?—No.

1204. Have you sent any back to Liverpool who have been sent over as paupers from Liverpool?—No.

1205. Have you sent any back to London who have been sent over as paupers from London?—Yes.

1206. Can you tell the Committee how many you have so sent back?—I cannot.

1207. Have you sent 50?—No, nor half the number; it is only a few; I should suppose altogether there might have been six or seven cases; it did not apply to any particular district.

1208. Mr. *Maguire.*] You mean the guardians as individuals?—Yes; if we put our hands into our pockets and paid for every case, it would be rather too ridiculous.

1209. Sir *G. Grey.*] How many paupers have you now receiving relief in the Cork workhouse?—Last Wednesday the number was over 4,100.

1210. And Mr. O'Shaughnessy stated that only 73 of those were persons who had been removed from England to Cork?—That is the present number.

1211. The present number in the house is over 4,000?—Yes.

1212. Of whom only 73 have been removed, under orders of removal from England, to Cork?—That is all at present.

1213. Sir *B. Hall.*] Are any of those 4,000 odd, who are now in the workhouse, able-bodied male paupers?—Very few; to look at some men, you would suppose from their appearance that they were well able to work, but on closer examination it is found that there is something the matter with them; there are very few or none who are able-bodied men; out of that number there are about 1,200 women; that is a great point with all the workhouses in Ireland now, the great number of women. We have about 500 girls under the age of 15, at school; 400 or 500 boys under 15, and about 1,200 of what are called "infirm," on the doctor's list; but there are few or no able-bodied men, nor even able-bodied young men. The recruiting sergeant goes up there occasionally to pick up young men; you see a young man apparently fit to work, but when examined, he has a bad arm or a bad leg, or something or other the matter with him.

1214. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is not it only in extreme cases that the guardians put their hands into their pockets, to provide for the re-transmission of those parties? —I have said that it has taken place in five or six cases.

1215. Do the guardians subscribe more from a feeling of sympathy, excited by the facts of the cases as stated by the paupers, than from a desire to relieve the union of the burthen of their support?—Decidedly from a feeling of sympathy.

1216. And a desire to forward the helpless members of families to those who would be most likely to protect them?—Decidedly, and no other feeling whatsoever.

Lunæ, 22° *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Mr. Cumming Bruce.
Sir George Grey.	Sir John Young.
Sir John Trollope.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Maguire.
Colonel Mure.	

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *John Duross*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Duross.*

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1217. *Chairman.*] WHAT office do you hold?—A Constable of the Irish Constabulary.

1218. At Cork?—Yes; the city of Cork.

1219. Belonging to the municipal corporation of Cork?—No; the Irish constabulary.

1220. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the nature of your duty?—To attend to the sailing and arriving of vessels at the port of Cork.

1221. From what ports in England do all those vessels arrive?—From Liverpool, Bristol, London, and Plymouth.

1222. *Chairman.*] How long have you held that office?—Five years.

1223. Mr. *Maguire.*] Since 1849, I believe?—Yes.

1224. Have you been engaged in that duty without interruption for that period of time?—Yes, with the exception of attending quarter sessions or assizes when I have made an arrest of an offender.

1225. Has your attention been called to the paupers sent over by those steamers which you speak of?—Yes.

1226. By which steamer are the greatest number sent?—By the London steamer calling at Plymouth.

1227. What is the average passage made by the London steamer to Cork?—She leaves on Thursdays, and arrives on Sundays or Mondays, according to the weather and the tide.

1228. Mr. *Liddell.*] Where does she start from?—From London every Thursday morning, at 8 o'clock.

1229. Mr. *Maguire.*] In winter time, what is the average passage?—Three days; sometimes four.

1230. What is the average passage of a Bristol or a Liverpool vessel?—From 22 to 30 hours.

1231. Twenty-two Bristol, and about 30 hours Liverpool?—Yes; they have to wait often for 12 hours for a tide at Passage before they can come up to the quays at Cork.

1232. Passage is seven miles from Cork?—Yes.

1233. Do you find that a good many persons, whom we may call paupers, are sent in the winter as well as in the summer months?—I think there are more sent in the winter months.

1234. What has been the average number, say in the last two years, of persons sent per week by all the vessels?—I think the least would be 20; I think the average, going on a low scale, would be 20; it might be more.

1235. Are the larger number of paupers sent by the London vessel?—They are.

1236. Much larger?—Yes.

1237. What proportion do they bear to those sent by Liverpool and Bristol, according to the best of your belief; are they three to one sent from London?—Yes, and more.

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1238. Have you ever seen 50 paupers sent in one vessel?—From their appearance, I believe I have, and more.

1239. Would you say that you have seen 70?—There might be 70, from their appearance.

1240. You have certainly seen 50?—I think so.

1241. But you state to the Committee that the lowest average which you can safely arrive at is 20 a week?—I think so.

1242. Have those persons a conductor with them?—Some of them have, and more have not.

1243. Are all those persons for the city of Cork?—No.

1244. In what condition do those people arrive in Cork generally?—In a very pitiable condition.

1245. Is there any protection for those people against the weather?—None, unless tarpaulin may be thrown over; or if the ship is not full of cargo between decks, a portion of the between-decks may be cleared out for their being in during the night.

1246. Generally speaking, are those vessels full of goods?—Yes.

1247. And sometimes have they cattle on deck?—They have; and if there are not cattle on deck, there is some shelter in the horse-stalls between the paddle-boxes; but when there are horses, or cows, or sheep coming over, they are put in those horse-stalls. Very few boats arrive without gentlemen's horses on board, coming from Plymouth and London.

1248. Would the numbers applying for relief at the workhouse give any idea of the number of persons that are sent to Cork?—I think not.

1249. If 103 applied in one year to the workhouse, would that give any idea of the number of persons who were landed on the quays at Cork?—I think it would not be one-tenth of the numbers that arrive; they are landed in Cork, and are sometimes transmitted to Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford, and Kerry.

1250. What do you mean by "transmitted"?—The conductor in some instances sends them on; in more he does not.

1251. Mr. *J. Ball.*] When you speak of Limerick, Tipperary, and Waterford, do you mean the counties of Limerick, Tipperary, and Waterford?—I do; the adjoining portions to Cork.

1252. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are many persons who are for Limerick, Waterford, Kerry, and Tipperary, left in Cork?—They are.

1253. Are many of those people that so arrive left destitute in the streets of Cork?—A great number.

1254. Has your attention been called to their condition?—Yes.

1255. Have those persons any place to go to when they arrive in Cork?—No place; they are left quite destitute, and often apply to the police for protection to be put into the bridewell for the night.

1256. In fact, is the bridewell their only resource?—Their only resource.

1257. Do you remember a woman named Julia Ryan being left in Cork, about July 1851?—I do.

1258. Was that woman left destitute in the streets?—She was out of her mind; she was put into the bridewell for protection, and sent, I think, for a month to gaol, in order to see what she might come to.

1259. Do you know anything more about her?—No.

1260. But you are positive that that woman was out of her mind, and was left destitute in the streets of Cork?—Yes.

1261. I need not ask you if she was a fit person to be left destitute?—She was not.

1262. Do you remember any case, in 1852, where death resulted from the severity of the weather?—I do.

1263. What was that?—A child, three years old, died in the arms of its mother, coming across from London.

1264. Did you see the body of that child?—I did. I had it brought to the bridewell, and acquainted the coroner with the circumstances, the child having died on the passage. It had been in bad health before it was sent with the mother from London. Under the circumstances, the coroner did not think it necessary to hold an inquest, and did not hold one.

1265. Did the mother complain of having been sent because the child was in that state?—She complained of having been sent over by the parish authorities.

1266. Do you know from what parish she was sent?—No.

1267. Do you remember any particular case, in the month of August 1852, of a woman coming by the "Ajax" steamer?—Yes; a woman, named Larey, a native of Tralee. She was very ill on the deck of the steamer. On making inquiries into her case, she told me that she was in the pangs of labour. She was not able to move. I had to employ a car, and get two men, along with myself, to carry her from the steamer to the car, and take her to the workhouse. While removing her from the car to the workhouse she was confined of a baby.

1268. Where was that woman from?—From Tralee, county Kerry; at least she stated to me that she was.

1269. You have no knowledge of the facts of any of these cases but from the statements of those people?—No; I think that, under the circumstances, and the condition the woman was in, she would not tell a lie.

1270. What parish was she sent from?—She was sent by the relieving officer of Fulham parish.

1271. Had she any means to go on to Tralee?—None, she stated.

1272. Were you justified in relying upon her statement?—I believe I was.

1273. Was there any person sent with her?—I am not aware.

1274. Did you find the woman lying on the deck of the vessel?—I did.

1275. With no person near her?—No person near her; she was lying close by the funnel on the deck of the vessel.

1276. Was the contractor or conductor near?—No.

1277. There was no one in charge of her; no one taking care of her?—I saw none, nor did I know that there was any. She stated to me that she was taken from the car and put on board the steamer, and sent on.

1278. Did she say that her confinement was premature?—I do not recollect; I believe not.

1279. Do you remember a case, about six weeks since, of a woman left on the quays of Cork, who suffered from the severity of the weather; a woman that was paralysed?—Yes; she was very miserably clad; she was completely paralysed; she had been sent over from London, she stated to me; the sailors carried her out of the steamer, and left her on a truck on the quay; the passers by were greatly taken with her, and sympathised very much. I went and got a car, and took her to the workhouse; I had to get two men to assist me to the car; she was completely paralysed from the cold, and she appeared to be in labour; I left her in the workhouse.

1280. Was she very far advanced in pregnancy?—She appeared to be.

1281. Where was that woman from?—From Kilmallock, in the county of Limerick.

1282. About 50 miles from Cork?—Yes.

1283. Do you remember a case, about a month since, of a woman named Swiney?—Yes.

1284. Just state what you know about it?—She was neatly clad; she had four or five children; she was from Kenmare, in the county of Kerry; she had been brought over by Sub-conductor Mr. Lee; she was left in Cork; she came to me to know if I could do anything with her. I said, "No." I waited upon Mr. Lee, and said that I would bring the case before the magistrates, and I thought she would have means to forward her on; that it was too great a hardship to be left in the streets of Cork. He said that he had a warrant of transmission, which he would show me. Something called me away at the time, and I did not see it. She was left quite destitute. I stated to her that she must have said she was from Cork, or she would not have been left there. She said, "No," she was from Kenmare; that she had been brought up from her infancy in England, and married to an Englishman; that he was out of employment, and she only applied for temporary relief; and she told me she had, or thought she had, a brother living in Cork. I told her to make inquiries to see whether she could find him out, and she could not; she believed she had no friends or relatives in Ireland; she appeared to be from 20 to 30 years of age.

1285. She was a decent-mannered woman?—Yes.

1286. Respectable in her appearance?—Yes, and with an English accent.

1287. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Did she state whether her husband was still alive or dead?—Alive, but out of employment, and that she applied for temporary relief till her husband could get employment.

1288. Mr. *Maguire.*] And that her husband was an Englishman, and that she had been reared in England?—Yes.

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1289. And in point of fact, she had no friend in Ireland?—No.

1290. Sir *B. Hall.*] Did she say what parish in England?—I am not sure; I think I made inquiry as to that, but I have forgotten it.

1291. Mr. *Maguire.*] It was not any part of your duty to inquire minutely into the cases?—No, except in a case of death, or something like that which I have reported upon.

1292. Except in a case of death, you did not inquire into the particulars of transmission?—No, unless in some very particular case.

1293. And you did not inquire as to the parish which the pauper was sent from?—No.

1294. You did not conceive it to be your duty?—No.

1295. Mr. *Liddell.*] From what place was the woman Swiney removed?—I do not know the parish.

1296. Sir *G. Grey.*] From what part in England?—From London; she came by the Cork steamer.

1297. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you remember a case, about six months since, of a woman who had been 30 or 35 years in London?—Yes.

1298. Describe that case?—She was a very industrious, clean, neatly-clad woman; she stated that she was a laundress; that she had been 30 or 35 years in England.

1299. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you know her name?—I forget her name, but I know that the magistrates required her to make a declaration as to the statement that she made before them, which declaration was forwarded to the parish where she came from; she had been a laundress, had got a hurt, and applied for temporary relief to the workhouse, and she was put on a car and forwarded by the steam-boat to Cork, against her will; she stated so.

1300. Mr. *Maguire.*] What kind of woman was she in appearance?—She was a very clean, good-looking woman.

1301. Healthy?—Yes.

1302. Did she state that she had never applied for workhouse relief until she was driven to it by accident?—I think she stated that she had only applied for relief once, and that was only some few days previous to her being transmitted to Cork by the steamer.

1303. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she mention the parish to which she had applied for relief?—She did, but I do not recollect it; the magistrates put it into the declaration.

1304. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did you know on Thursday last that you were to be examined here?—No, I was summoned at the termination of my evidence before the Emigrant Ships' Committee.

1305. Have you had any communication with Cork since then?—No.

1306. And you speak of your own knowledge of these cases?—Just from my recollection and knowledge.

1307. Do you remember, about two months since, a woman sent with a number of children?—I do.

1308. Sir *B. Hall.*] What is her name?—I forget her name; I did not take it; I might be able to get her name if I was in Cork. She came to the police station, and stated to me that she had been sent to Cork from London, that she was from Knocklong or Kilmallock, in the county of Limerick, and that the conductor had left her in the house of a lodging-house keeper named Higgins, in Devonshire-street, and had given Higgins 5 *s.* to have her sent on to either Kilmallock or Knocklong.

1309. Mr. *Maguire.*] How many children had she?—Four or five.

1310. Do you know anything of her circumstances; had she a husband in London?—She stated that she applied for temporary relief; that her husband was an Englishman; that she had been a long time resident in England; that she believed she had no friends in Limerick, even if she got there; and that she thought the conductor had money to have her sent on to a place where she had friends. I went to Higgins, and inquired of him how he became possessed of the 5 *s.*, and he said that the conductor had given it to him to have her sent on.

1311. Sir *B. Hall.*] Do you know the names of the conductors in these cases?—I know the name of one particularly, that is Lee; he is most frequently in Cork; I think he is a sub-conductor; there is another man named Frost; I think there are two classes.

1312. Those are the parties who bring them from London to the ports?—Yes.

1313. Mr.

1313. Mr. *Maguire.*] Would 5 *s.* pay for the fare of that woman and her five children to Knocklong?—No, Knocklong is about 47 miles from Cork; she could not get there for less than a penny a mile; there is no conveyance, except by train.

1314. Was her husband a native of England or Ireland?—Of England, she stated.

1315. Did she state whether she had any friends in Ireland?—She believed she had none; she said that if she had any they were about Limerick.

1316. Do you remember a case, about three months since, of a young woman, with three children, who was left destitute on the quay of Cork?—Yes, a young woman, who might be 25 or 26 years of age; she had three children. She was sent over by the London boat. I do not recollect her name, but I had to put her into the bridewell for protection. I was coming in at 11 o'clock, and she was sitting in a doorway in the street. The night was very cold, and I put her in for protection. She made a declaration before the magistrates the next day that she had been from her infancy in England, and was married to an Englishman, and that her children were born there. The magistrates had great compassion for her, and out of their own private pocket they sent her over back again to London.

1317. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she say where her husband was residing in London?—Yes; in that declaration she made the statement.

1318. Was any communication made by the magistrates before they sent her back?—I am not aware of that. Upon her making the declaration of the facts, they thought they were justified in sending her back.

1319. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know that employment has increased very much lately in Ireland?—It has.

1320. Are wages better than they were?—Wages are a great deal better than they have been.

1321. What are the average wages now of an agricultural labourer in the country?—About 1 *s.* 4 *d.* a day.

1322. Would you say that 1 *s.* 3 *d.* is about the average?—I think 1 *s.* 3 *d.* or 1 *s.* 4 *d.* a day would be about the average.

1323. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Do you mean during the spring, or throughout the whole year?—I speak generally throughout the year. The labouring classes have got very scarce throughout the country.

1324. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know of your own knowledge that labour has become very scarce in the country?—I have heard that it has, and I have made inquiries. I have been through a great portion of Ireland lately, and I have heard the farmers complaining very much of the want of the labouring classes.

1325. In what counties of Ireland have you been of late?—Through the King's, Queen's, Carlow, and the county of Cork.

1326. Are you in frequent connexion with emigrants leaving the port of Cork, in the discharge of your duty?—Constantly.

1327. Have you had conversations with them as to the condition of the country?—Yes.

1328. From the conversation which you have had with them, do you think that there is a great diminution of labour in certain parts of the country?—There is.

1329. In fact, is there not an actual want of it?—Yes.

1330. Do you remember some four or five years since, say 1849 and 1850, was there not a constant emigration at that time of vagrants of the poor and destitute class from Ireland to England?—There was.

1331. Is there any such thing at the present moment?—No; they are the strong working people who are going; the labouring classes; servant boys and girls.

1332. Is not the emigration considerable at the present moment?—It is.

1333. It is less, though, than it was two or three years since?—It is less, in consequence of the rise of the passage-money.

1334. What is the passage-money now to New York?—From 5 *l.* 10 *s.* to 6 *l.*

1335. What was it in former years?—It was from 3 *l.* to 4 *l.* Six months since it was from 3 *l.* 10 *s.* to 4 *l.*, and now it is from 5 *l.* 10 *s.* to 6 *l.*

1336. They generally sail from Liverpool, but they take their passage in Cork, do not they?—They charge 10 *s.* more in Cork than in Liverpool, in consequence of the steamboat fare; and take their passage in Cork.

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1337. Do you think that that cost of passage is the reason of the diminution of emigration at present?—I think so.

1338. From your own knowledge of the people, is emigration likely to increase or to diminish?—I think that it will increase. The young people who are going away are promising their parents, and young brothers and sisters, that as soon as they are able they will remit money, and have them brought over to them.

1339. From your knowledge of the people, is the desire to emigrate as great as ever it was?—I think it is.

1340. Mr. *Liddell.*] Is not there also a diminution in the numbers of that pauper population of Ireland which was formerly the great source of emigration?—There is.

1341. A diminution?—I think so.

1342. Then why do you think that the tide of emigration is likely to increase?—I think, if you give them two or three months or more in America, to make the extra money in America to send for their friends, in three or four months more I think the emigration will be as great as ever. Young people going over to America used not to be over but four or five months when they could send 3*l.* or 4*l.* to get their friends over; now they must get 6*l.* or 8*l.*; that will cause them to be some time longer in America before they are able to send for their friends.

1343. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is not the desire to emigrate common to all classes of the humbler orders?—It is common to domestic servants, to mechanics, to labourers in cities, as well as agricultural labourers.

1344. Farmers?—Yes.

1345. There is a great desire to get to New York, or some part of the United States?—Yes.

1346. Is it the fact that wages have increased, say, in the city of Cork, of porters and labouring men?—Yes; the labouring porters that were working on the quays for less than 9*s.* or 10*s.* a week, are getting from 12*s.* to 15*s.* now.

1347. Some two or three years since, landowners were also in the habit of sending a large number of persons?—They were landlords sending off tenants who were in arrears of rent.

1348. Sir *G. Grey.*] Where?—To America.

1349. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are they in the habit of doing so now?—Not nearly to the extent that they did; they have not got them to send.

1350. I believe scarcely any?—They send very few.

1351. In point of fact, are there many, or any, of what you would call the vagrant class going at the present moment?—There are very few in comparison to what there were three years ago.

1352. Do you know the rate of passage-money now?—The London fare is 12*s.*, and the Plymouth fare is 10*s.*, the Bristol fare is 10*s.*, and the Liverpool fare is 10*s.* also, deck passage.

1353. I believe that you have had means of knowing what is the feeling in reference to the sending back of those people?—The feeling is very much against the English authorities for having them sent over, they suffer so much; having spent the best of their days in England, they are then sent back paupers to Cork.

1354. Is there a very strong feeling of the injustice, on the ground which you last stated; these people having spent the greater part of their lives in England, and then being sent back as it were helpless to their own country?—Yes.

1355. Do they also conceive it a very great hardship to send back people who have lost their friends and relatives in the country?—They do.

1356. Do they also conceive it a very great hardship to have persons sent from this country where they have employment of a peculiar kind to a country where they cannot find that species of employment?—They do.

1357. You say the feeling is very strong?—Very strong indeed.

1358. Is it confined to any class?—I think the feeling is general.

1359. When persons so transmitted come before the magistrates, is not the court generally very crowded?—It is.

1360. That generally happens, I believe, on Wednesday?—Either Mondays or Tuesdays.

1361. Does the recital of a case of that kind make a very strong impression?—It does.

1362. Suppose the law of removal was done away with in this country, what would

would be the feeling in Ireland if it was not done away with as far as Ireland was regarded; from your own knowledge, do you think it would be very strong?—I think it would be very strong indeed.

1363. Is not the sympathy of the magistrates very frequently actively excited by these?—It is; so much so, that they contribute out of their own private funds to send some of those people back; in your year of office as mayor of Cork they sent several back.

1364. Are there any public funds by which these people are sent back?—None whatever.

1365. Is there any organised system of re-transmission?—No.

1366. *Chairman.*] You know of none?—Not that I know of.

1367. Mr. *Maguire.*] If such existed in Cork, should you not know it?—I think that it could not be there without my knowledge.

1368. It is scarcely possible, with an active member of the constabulary force, that it could exist without his knowledge?—I think it would be certain to have got into the press if there were such a thing, and I do not believe there is.

1369. You believe there is no such thing?—Yes.

1370. When parties are sent back it is by voluntary private subscription?—Yes.

1371. Have you known cases where women who have been alleged to have been separated from their husbands have been sent back?—Several cases, where the parties have been brought before the bench, where they have been put in the bridewell for protection for the night, they have stated that they have left their rooms, with their furniture; that they have made a very pitiable statement to the magistrates; and in all those cases the magistrates require them to make a declaration.

1372. Of your own knowledge, do the magistrates ever send back any of those people without being impressed with the idea that, if they were sent back, they could support themselves in England?—No, they would not send them back.

1373. Would they not consider it an act of cruelty, in fact, to send them back?—They would; they have often spoken of the sufferings which they undergo on the passage.

1374. These people are so anxious to get back again that they are quite willing to undergo the sufferings again?—They are.

1375. Sir *G. Grey.*] You say that the magistrates send back no persons that are not, in their opinion, able to support themselves in this country?—Yes.

1376. Is it so stated in the declarations which they make before the magistrates, that they are able to support themselves here?—It is, I believe.

1377. Then do they state the reason which induced them to apply to the parish for relief in England?—They generally state it to have arisen from being out of employment or from disease.

1378. Notwithstanding that, they think that if they were sent back they would be able to support themselves without applying for relief again?—Yes, they state so; that they have husbands or friends who will support them, and they make a declaration to that effect.

1379. Do the magistrates communicate with the husbands to ascertain whether that impression is a well-founded impression before they send them back?—I am not aware.

1380. You said that your duty was to watch the steamboats leaving Cork as well as arriving?—Yes.

1381. Do the London steamboats carry many deck passengers from Cork to Plymouth or London?—They do.

1382. Which way have they carried most, from London and Plymouth to Cork, or from Cork to Plymouth and London, during the five years of your experience upon the subject?—I think there are as many coming back as going.

1383. Are there as many going as coming back?—I think there are.

1384. Do they go in the same manner, as deck passengers, without any other protection, as when they come?—They do.

1385. Taking Cork and Liverpool, which way do the steamboats carry most deck passengers, from Cork to Liverpool, or from Liverpool to Cork?—They carry a great many more to Liverpool than to Cork.

1386. I suppose some of them are intending to emigrate?—Those leaving by the Liverpool boats are all emigrants, or persons who come over to make purchases in England; all the deck passengers I would say are emigrants.

1387. Is there a marked difference between the deck passengers going from

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Cork to London, and those from Cork to Liverpool?—Not much in their appearance.

1388. But I suppose no emigrants go to London from Cork?—No; they come from London to Cork to emigrate from Cork to America.

1389. You said that about 20 upon the average came a week during the five years, and that on one occasion there were as many as 50 or 70. Were some of those emigrants coming from London to Cork for the purpose of emigration, or were they all paupers coming under orders of removal?—They were all paupers.

1390. Are you aware of that?—I am.

1391. You said that in one case, although the average was 20 per week, taking all the boats, one vessel from London brought from 50 to 70. Do you mean that there were from 50 to 70 deck passengers of all sorts, or from 50 to 70 under orders of removal?—I should believe that those 50 or 70, from their appearance, were under orders of removal sent over by the parishes; there may have been 200 passengers on board the steamer.

1392. Are you able to distinguish from their appearance between those who come from London to Cork for the purpose of emigration, and those who come from London to Cork under orders of removal?—Yes; you see them with the conductor who brings them to the lodging-house.

1393. You have stated that in destitute cases they apply to the police; do they never apply to the Poor-law authorities in Cork?—There are no Poor-law authorities there on the arrival of the steamers.

1394. Is there no Board of Guardians at Cork?—There is.

1395. Is there no relieving officer at Cork?—There is.

1396. Are the Board of Guardians aware that the steamboats weekly bring people in this destitute state, and land them on the quays of Cork?—They are.

1397. Have they made any provision by sending their relieving officer down at the time when these steamboats are expected, in order to relieve those destitute persons?—I have not known of a case.

1398. With reference to this poor woman, whom you described as being out of her mind, you said that she was sent to gaol for a month to see whether she would get better?—It was more for protection than to punish her that she was sent there.

1399. Is there no lunatic asylum in Cork?—There is; but there should be a certain form gone through, which could not in that case have been gone through.

1400. What is the form?—A declaration to be made by a relative of the insane person, and a doctor must certify; some party must swear that she is a dangerous lunatic before they would admit her into the asylum.

1401. Supposing a pauper becomes a lunatic in the workhouse, is there no means of transferring the pauper from the workhouse to the lunatic asylum?—I am not aware, unless you go through the necessary form; I think a pauper would not be admitted into the lunatic asylum unless this form was gone through.

1402. Do you mean to say that they receive lunatics into the gaol of Cork, and that they do not receive them into the workhouse or the lunatic asylum, unless some relation or some person certifies?—Under certain circumstances they do.

1403. Mr. *Maguire.*] In fact, was it a safe place to send her at that time?—It was.

1404. Would it have been competent to the authorities to accommodate her there longer than two or three days?—They could not have done so in the bridewell.

1405. Inasmuch as she would occupy a room to herself?—Yes.

1406. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do the Board of Guardians at Cork take any cognisance of the arrival of those persons by the steamboat which is expected, and takes place weekly; do they send any relieving officer to the quays?—I have not known a case where the relieving officer has been in waiting for the steamer.

1407. Do not you feel it your duty, when you find a person in this destitute state, to take him to the relieving officer or to the workhouse?—I put them into the bridewell for protection.

1408. What is the bridewell?—The place where all prisoners are put; they remain there for the night, and are brought before the magistrates at 10 o'clock the next morning. The police magistrates sit till four o'clock in the evening. From that until 10 o'clock the next morning, all persons arrested, unless in some special case, are put there, and they are marched up before the magistrates in the morning by the constabulary.

1409. Do you mean to say that it is necessary, if a destitute pauper arrives at Cork, that that pauper should pass through the prison, and be brought before the magistrates before he can obtain relief from any Poor-law authority?—It is merely for protection; it is not for punishment, but only for protection for the night. If they belong to the parish, they are sent to the workhouse. The relieving officer attends at his office from 10 to 4 o'clock daily. There are several offices, and if they belong to Cork parish they are sent there, and if it is a very hard case the magistrates contribute out of their funds to send the parties on to different parts of the county. I believe that all the paupers for the county of Cork are landed at Cork without any subsistence whatever, or any means to forward them to their destinations.

1410. What becomes of them if they do not belong to the parish of Cork?—In some cases I believe the conductors forward them.

1411. I am speaking of a pauper who is put into the bridewell for protection, brought before the magistrates, and found not to belong to the parish of Cork?—Then they are discharged, and allowed to make the best of their way to their own union.

1412. I am speaking of a destitute person with no means of finding his or her way to his or her own home; what do the authorities of Cork do in such a case?—In a very distressed case they contribute out of their own funds, and send them on by coach or rail. I think they get them on some of those conveyances for half-fare, but I cannot tell of my own knowledge.

1413. Then do you mean that the Board of Guardians at Cork never relieve a destitute pauper so arriving unless that destitute pauper is found to belong to Cork?—I do not say so; they are removed to the guardians, and I do not know the regulations of the guardians.

1414. *Chairman.*] Is it your duty to attend upon the landing of every steam-packet?—It is.

1415. Do you know when these steam-packets are likely to arrive?—I do.

1416. Have you any general instructions either from the municipal authorities of Cork or from the Poor-law Guardians as to what is to be done with destitute persons who are landed?—The municipal authorities or Poor-law Guardians have no control over us.

1417. Have you any general instructions which you are to follow as part of your duty with regard to destitute persons landed from these steamers?—I have not.

1418. Have you any instructions of any kind as to what is to be done with destitute persons whom you see landed from these vessels at Cork?—I have no general instructions.

1419. Do you consider it your duty, when a person really in a state of destitution is landed without any place to go to, to take that person to the bridewell or to the workhouse?—To the bridewell.

1420. That is your understanding of your duty?—Yes.

1421. No offence of any sort being surmised against that person, but he being in a state of destitution, you would think it your duty to take that person to the bridewell, and not to the Poor-law authorities?—Yes, for the night; and the magistrates would the next morning do what they thought right in the case.

1422. Then the person sleeps in the bridewell that night, and is brought up before the justices the next morning with other offenders, I suppose?—Yes, but gets a dinner and breakfast.

1423. Then you do not in any case hand them over to the Poor-law authorities, but you take them to the bridewell?—In no case do I hand them over to the Poor-law authorities, unless in the cases which I have mentioned of people being very ill, and not able to take charge of themselves.

1424. You say that it is a part of your duty to be in attendance on those steamers; so far as you know, is it the practice of any Poor-law authority of any description, relieving officer or other, to be in attendance at the landing of these steamers?—I have never known one to be there.

1425. You have never seen one?—No.

1426. Although abuses of this kind have been going on for years, yet there is no regulation in Cork by which any Poor-law authority, relieving officer or other, is in attendance at the landing of these steamers?—None, more than I have stated.

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1427. The parties come into the hands of the police?—Yes; during the evening or night.

1428. With regard to the cases which you have mentioned, I think you say that the only one in which you learned from what parish the person came in London was the Fulham case; that is the only name which you gave us; did you in any other case learn the parish from which the party had been sent?—I did not; I have not taken a note of any other case; I thought this an extraordinary case, and I just took a note of it.

1429. Have you information with regard to any of the others, where the party has been living in London, with whom, or by whom sent, or any particulars of any kind?—No.

1430. In each case you went by the statement of the pauper; you had nothing else?—I had nothing else to depend on.

1431. You said that you thought there were about 20 people sent on an average by all these steamers weekly?—Yes.

1432. How do you know that these were paupers under orders of removal; did each of them tell you that?—They did not each; they generally collect in a crowd, and follow the conductor up the street, and this Higgins has a lodging-house for them: it is a very low lodging-house, and they are generally sent to Higgins's lodging-house.

1433. Then do you mean that all those people whom you see going into Higgins's lodging-house you consider to be paupers under orders of removal sent by London parishes?—Yes; together with others that I see, from their appearance are of the same class, walking with them in company.

1434. Do you understand it as part of your duty (and I want to have this very distinctly), that you are in every case which is clearly one of destitution and nothing else, to take that person to the bridewell and not to the workhouse?—I do.

1435. Mr. *Liddell.*] From whom did you receive those instructions?—I act under the Vagrant Act; I put them in for begging, or something like it, in the streets; they generally ask alms, and I put them in.

1436. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are you acquainted with the provisions of the Irish Vagrant Act; have you had any instructions as to executing that Act?—Yes, I have.

1437. Do you know what makes a person liable to apprehension for vagrancy?—Asking alms.

1438. And do you know whether by that Act a person coming from the country districts into the Cork Union for the purpose of begging is liable to punishment?—He is, and he is convicted for it; and they are sent to gaol for a month, some of them.

1439. Generally you understand it to be contrary to the provisions of that Act, for a person not belonging to Cork to come there for the purpose of seeking relief?—Yes.

1440. And are we to understand that you apply your impression as to that Act to the cases of these persons when they come from England?—I do.

1441. Amongst the numerous persons who arrived in Cork, you stated that there were a good many who were destitute, and very meanly clad; do you think that there is a certain proportion of the people who are removed, who have their homes in Ireland, and who make their way back of their own accord?—I think there are very few, who have spent five or six years or more in England, that have any friends in Ireland in Cork, especially in the western part of the county. Great numbers of the poorer classes died there in 1847 and 1848; that is, during the years of the famine.

1442. Amongst the whole number, are there some who appear, or whom you find out from the information which you get, to have been a short time in England, who have been unable to get work, and who come back in this way?—Those who have been over seeking employment, and have not got it, have not means to come back, and are sent back by the parishes.

1443. Do you think there are some who have means to get back, and nevertheless get removed by the parishes?—I do not think there are.

1444. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it for the purpose of protection, or for punishment, that you put these people into the bridewell?—For protection.

1445. I am now dealing entirely with those persons who come by the steamers; what is your object in putting in those people?—For protection.

1446. For protection for the night?—Yes.

1447. Do

1447. Do not they generally arrive in Cork on the Sunday morning or the Sunday evening, by the morning or evening packet?—Or the Monday morning.

1448. Those persons very frequently ask you to give them shelter for a time?—They do.

1449. Did you ever hear of the guardians, or any of the relieving officers, refusing an application for relief by them?—No.

1450. Sir *G. Grey.*] Then are the Committee clearly to understand that you take those people to the bridewell for protection, and not on the ground of their having committed an offence, with which they are charged the next day before the magistrates?—I take them for protection; they have committed an offence, and I put the charge of begging against them in the bridewell, and then I state the case to the magistrates the next morning. They are often quite destitute, they are miserably clad, and they are left unfortunately on the streets; they generally inquire for the police barracks to get protection. I am constantly in plain clothes; I seldom put on uniform. Some of the porters or persons along the quay know me, and they say, "There is a constable, and he will tell you what to do." They come to me and ask me for protection; and I put them in as being vagrants and having no protection, and state the case to the magistrates the next morning. I put them in that they may get their dinner, and breakfast the next morning.

1451. With what specific offence do you charge them before the magistrates?—Begging; they were begging. It was not for the act, but to protect them from the inclemency of the weather.

1452. Then we are to understand that you do not take any persons to the bridewell for protection who have not been actually begging in the streets of Cork?—If they state to me that they are badly off, I do take them to the bridewell; on making that application I understand that they are begging.

1453. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are they put in separate rooms?—They are; the drunkards are in one place, the thieves in another, and the paupers in another.

1454. The destitute people?—Yes; and the males and females of each class are kept separate.

1455. Where a case is peculiarly recommended to the care of the governor of the bridewell, is not that person or family generally put in a room by themselves?—Yes, provided there are no males with them.

1456. Mr. *Liddell.*] There are two establishments, it appears, in Cork; one is the workhouse and the other is the bridewell?—Yes.

1457. Do you consider the bridewell to be for the reception of prisoners?—I do.

1458. Of parties who are charged with some offence against the laws?—Yes.

1459. Do not you consider the workhouse to be for the reception of paupers, and for the protection of paupers?—Yes, and so is the bridewell, under the Vagrancy Act.

1460. Why, when a poor destitute man in the streets of Cork applies to you for relief, do you take him to the bridewell rather than to the workhouse?—The bridewell is the most convenient. The workhouse is a distance from the town, and these people, perhaps, are some of them not able to walk, having young children, and if the day is very bad I prefer taking them to the bridewell.

1461. Mr. *Maguire.*] In fact the bridewell is about half a mile from the steamer, is it not?—A quarter of a mile.

1462. And the other is at least a mile and a quarter, or a mile and a half?—It is a mile and a half.

1463. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] But is there anything to prevent these destitute persons from receiving relief at the workhouse, if they go there?—I think not.

1464. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you ever recommend them to go there, and tell them that they have a right to relief there?—If the day is fine, and they are strong and able to go there, I do recommend them.

1465. And do any go in consequence of such recommendation?—I think some go; others will prefer staying about the streets.

1466. Mr. *Liddell.*] I understand you to have stated, that from the amount of emigration which has taken place, agricultural labour has become rather scarce in Ireland?—It has.

1467. That wages have risen in consequence?—Yes.

1468. That therefore you do not expect that so many parties will leave Ireland for England in order to obtain labour as has been the case heretofore?—I believe they will not, nor near the number.

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1469. You think that if there is already a scarcity of labour in Ireland, they will be able to obtain sufficient employment in their own country without coming to England to seek it?—I believe they will.

1470. But at the same time, you state that you believe that the quantity of emigrants from Ireland to America is not diminished, and is not likely to be diminished?—I think not for some time, unless from the cause stated; that is, the rise of the passage-money.

1471. In spite of the diminution of destitute people in Ireland, and in spite of the population being somewhat diminished by these various causes which have operated, you still think that emigration to the United States is likely to go on in an equal or an increasing ratio?—I think it will go on as it is going, if it is not increased.

1472. Mr. *Maguire.*] Why are you ordered to attend on those persons who arrive by the steamers?—To see that order is kept, and to endeavour to detect offenders.

1473. You have no right of yourself to take a pauper to the workhouse; that would not be part of your duty?—No.

1474. Your duty would be to take him to the relieving officer?—To take or send.

1475. Do you know of your own knowledge that the relieving officers attend at the magistrates' court in the morning at 10 o'clock?—I do sometimes.

1476. And you, by giving a poor person the protection of the bridewell for the night, put him in the way of communicating with the relieving officer the following morning?—I do.

1477. The relieving officer, I believe, has not his office open on the Sunday?—No.

1478. *Chairman.*] Do you mean that nobody can get relief at the workhouse on a Sunday at Cork; suppose a person becomes destitute on a Sunday in Cork, is there no relief given before the morning?—They are admitted for the night at the workhouse on applying at the workhouse, but the relieving offices through the city are not open on the Sunday; they are admitted in the workhouse, I believe, at the gate; they can apply at the gate of the workhouse for admission for the night, and they are admitted.

1479. Mr. *Maguire.*] Supposing a poor destitute person represents his or her case to you, can you take that person yourself to the relieving officer; the relieving officer may perhaps live half a mile or a mile from the place where you find that person?—The nearest relieving officer to the steamer I think would be half a mile or more.

1480. How far would the workhouse be from his house?—I think it would be a mile and a half or two miles.

1481. That it would be about two miles altogether?—Yes.

1482. The best thing then that you can do, is to take that person to the bridewell, and give him protection for the night?—Yes.

1483. And you immediately put down begging upon the sheet against him or her, merely as a formal matter?—Yes.

1484. In order that the magistrates may have cognisance of the case?—Yes.

1485. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you give no evidence, then, to the magistrates in support of the charge?—I must make a statement as to what the party was doing, and under what circumstances I took him into custody.

1486. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it your opinion that there is any provision for the transmission of people in the county of Cork; that on their being sent from the city of London, and being landed in the city of Cork, there is any provision to send them to any part of the county?—I know there is not, unless by private contributions.

1487. Do you know that many parts of the county of Cork are from 50 to 100 miles distant from the city?—Yes; I think Bantry is very close upon 90 miles distant from Cork.

1488. And there are some 20 or 30 miles beyond that to the west?—Yes; on to Skull. Skull is more distant.

1489. Sir *B. Hall.*] Upon what fund is the charge made for the relief of these vagrants or paupers; is it upon the parochial union, or the county cess, or upon what fund?—What relief?

1490. The relief that is given them in the bridewell?—Of the citizens.

1491. It is charged upon the city of Cork?—Upon the city rates.

1492. When you take these parties before the magistrates, I understand that you make a statement to the magistrates that you found them destitute or begging, and that you bring them up under the provisions of the Vagrant Act before the magistrates?—Yes.

1493. What is the course which is immediately taken in reference to those parties; we will assume that there are 20 persons taken before the magistrates, how are their separate cases inquired into?—The relieving officer is there to take those who may belong to the Cork Union, and, on making inquiry, he gives them tickets of admission. Some of them are discharged when able to walk, and they walk home to their different unions. For some that are not able to walk there is a contribution entered into, and they are sent on by train or coach, or whatever conveyance there may be, to wherever they say they are from.

1494. Then those who are found on examination to belong to the Cork Union, are admitted into the union workhouse at Cork?—If they go there.

1495. If they choose to go there?—If they choose; some of them prefer begging through the city.

1496. Then do you take those persons up again under the Vagrant Act?—They are at once taken up, and if they are found a second time, they get a month, or perhaps more, in gaol.

1497. You immediately take them up before the magistrates?—Yes, if the magistrates are sitting. The magistrates sit every day from 10 till 4 o'clock, and any person arrested after that, no matter for what crime, is put in bridewell till 10 the next day, till the magistrates sit; the charge is put on the charge sheet, and the policeman's number is called the next day, when the prisoner is called.

1498. Do you mean to say, that if a person is found on the quay, having just been landed from the Liverpool or London steamer, and you take him to the bridewell, and the following day take him before the magistrates, and he is found to belong to the union of Cork, or to some other union in the neighbourhood, and he prefers not going to the union workhouse, and you find that person begging again, that person is invariably committed to prison for an act of vagrancy?—Yes.

1499. And punished?—Yes.

1500. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are you certain of that?—I am.

1501. Do you not rather know that the magistrates very frequently caution them again?—In some cases they do, but very seldom.

1502. Are there not complaints that the magistrates are rather too lenient than otherwise?—Yes, there are strong complaints; the citizens complain very much of the magistrates not sending them more frequently to gaol.

1503. Sir *B. Hall.*] You assume that on the average there are 20 of these people sent every week; what proportion of those 20 can you state to the Committee really do become chargeable afterwards?—I cannot say, for they are brought in by other constables besides me; it is only in some very distressing case that I put them in.

1504. I thought that they all went to the bridewell, and that you subsequently took them before the magistrates?—No; they are taken up in the streets; or where they are destitute, they are sent by those persons who know me, and I put them in; some make their way over different parts of the city, and are taken up in the night by the police.

1505. Sir *G. Grey.*] You said that 20 arrived on the average in the week at Cork from the different ports which you enumerated?—I think so.

1506. How many of those 20, who are brought over as you imagine under orders of removal, find their way into the bridewell in the first instance?—I cannot say, for they are put in by other police besides me. They make their way to the different parts of the city; and then at night, when they have no protection for the night and are sitting on the doorways, the policemen on patrol arrest them and put them into the bridewell. I have not the slightest idea of the number that may have been in the bridewell.

1507. How many in the week arrive in a destitute condition, as you have stated, and are taken for protection by you from the quay to the bridewell, upon the average?—I cannot say.

1508. You know, you say, that about 20 arrive?—Twenty arrive for the different unions of the five counties.

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1509. They are landed at Cork upon the quays from those steamboats?—Yes.

1510. Can you form any estimate of the number who, being in a state of absolute destitution, are taken by you from the quay on which they have been landed to the bridewell in a week?—I cannot say; I have often put a woman and four or five children in for protection during the night, or perhaps for two days; that has frequently occurred, but it is only in case of great destitution that I do so.

1511. Sir *B. Hall.*] You say that on the average about 20 destitute persons per week are landed?—I think that would be about the fair average.

1512. That is more than 1,000 in the year?—Yes.

1513. You are frequently at the bridewell, are you not?—I am.

1514. Are there any books kept at the bridewell in order to show the number of these paupers who are brought in?—Yes; but I do not think that there is a distinction or a column to make remarks where those are from. There may be 50 paupers in the bridewell of a night. I do not know that a distinction is made whether they are from London or not, unless in some very strong cases.

1515. Then there is no account at the bridewell which will show how many of these 1,040 paupers, which you say come on the average in the year from England, are in the bridewell?—No, I think not. You will not understand me to say that they are landed in Cork as belonging to Cork; I said that they were from Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford, and the Cork county generally.

1516. That is to say, they came originally from those places, but come from England to Cork?—Yes; and some are conducted by the conductors to those places, but more are left in Cork.

1517. But you do not know how many of those persons are in the bridewell?—I do not.

1518. You stated to the Committee that there is a great feeling of pity and commiseration when these parties are brought before the magistrates?—There is.

1519. You also stated that the magistrates consider it a great hardship to have persons sent back who cannot find employment in Ireland?—I stated that the magistrates thought it was a great hardship to send persons who had worked so long in England back, as paupers, to Cork; to land them in Cork after their best days were over.

1520. I understood you also to say that they considered it a great hardship that persons were sent back who could not find employment in Ireland; did you say that or not?—I do not think I did.

1521. Did much emigration take place in the years 1849, 1850, and 1851?—Yes; more Irish poor came over to England in 1851 than, I think, have done for the last two or three years; the reason of it was, that there was opposition; the Dublin Steam Ship Company's steamers were in opposition, over 12 months, to the Cork Steam Ship Company's steamers, and they took passengers over for 1*s.*, 1*s.* 6*d.*, 2*s.* 6*d.*, and 5*s.*

1522. I am speaking of emigration from Ireland; was there much emigration from Ireland in the years 1849, 1850, and 1851?—There was.

1523. To what do you attribute the extent of that emigration?—The poorness of the country, I think; the want of employment; and during 1847, 1848, and 1849 they suffered a great deal from famine, and any families who had any friends at all in America had money remitted to them, and I think that was a great cause of a good deal of emigration in those years.

1524. I am speaking of a time subsequent to the famine which was in 1847 and 1848; during the years 1851 and 1852, was there not a great deal of emigration from Ireland?—There was.

1525. To what do you attribute that emigration in 1851 and 1852, after the famine had passed away?—I think it was in consequence of the rate of wages being so very small, and the friends of those people living in America sending home so very great an amount of remittances. I think that was the greatest cause of the emigration.

1526. And that applied also to a great extent to the emigration to England as well as to Australia and other places, did it not?—Do you mean of the poorer classes?

1527. Yes?—I do not think it did; people came over to England, as I have stated, the fares being so very low; that was because they were not able to get up so much money as would take them to America.

1528. What was the rate of wages then to able-bodied men?—They were working then for from 6*d.* to 10*d.* a day; those working then for that are getting from

from 1 *s.* to 1 *s.* 6 *d.* a day now; and there were a great many more labourers in the country then than now.

1529. Colonel *Mure.*] Are not the class of people who emigrate to foreign parts much the same class of people who come over to England to work?—They are; those who come to England are as strong and healthy, but have not the means.

1530. I mean as regards their circumstances; would not the same motive which induces them to leave Ireland to go to England to seek work and be better off induce them to go to America?—Certainly it would; it is to improve their condition.

1531. You have mentioned that you think the number of people coming to England is greatly diminished in consequence of wages for labour being higher in Ireland, and yet you think that the number of people emigrating will increase?—There is more inducement for them to go to America; their friends have some little means laid by there, or something for them when they arrive there; they generally have situations for them.

1532. Do you think that an Irishman who could get work, and was well off in his own country, as you have described, would emigrate to America, because he had friends there, to a great extent?—Yes; and I attribute it to persons in Ireland having a portion of their families in America, and they want to get to their families.

1533. Will not the emigration be limited entirely to that class, and no longer extend to the other class who might go of their own accord, and from a feeling of necessity?—I think there are very few of the poorer families in Ireland who have not relations, brothers, or children, or parents, or somebody in America; and they all wish to get there to their families.

1534. Do not you think that the future emigration will be entirely confined to that class of people who are tempted to go over to their relations, and will no longer extend to those going from a feeling of necessity?—I think so.

1535. In regard to the special cases of hardship cited in the early part of your evidence, you mentioned that you were not in the habit of taking a note of these cases; is there any note taken of them by any other person?—Yes; in all cases of arrests the names are kept in the arrest-book, and where they are from.

1536. Are the places whence the paupers are removed noted in all cases of hardship, such as you have described, and also the ports in England whence they came?—Yes; but when they are referred to and asked where they are from, they will say they are from Limerick or Tipperary, although they have been 20 or 30 years in England; they invariably state whatever county in Ireland they are from.

1537. I ask you whether, in the cases of hardship where persons who have been ill, or such as you described at the commencement of your evidence, have been brought to the notice of any of the authorities or parties employed to look after these things, they have been in the habit of specifically inquiring the place in England from which these people have been sent under these circumstances of hardship?—Yes, there are notes taken in the diaries of the different stations.

1538. Has any complaint been made to the places in England in those cases?—I have not known any.

1539. It is not the custom to make any complaint; they submit to the hardship?—You cannot make a representation but through the Poor-law guardians or magistrates.

1540. You say that you, as connected with the police, are not in the habit of testing these cases; I ask you whether other parties in Cork are in the habit of doing so?—I think they have made complaints.

1541. With respect to the passages from Cork to London, or to other ports, you mentioned that there were as many as 50 to 70 paupers, who were removed, coming over in one vessel; how many have you ever known to go from Cork in one vessel?—There might be 400 of all classes.

1542. Of the class of persons emigrating to England in search of work?—Able-bodied young men and women that are well able to work, and get employment, they are not the class that are sent back.

1543. Have you ever known any cases of death or disease, or such as you have alluded to as existing in regard to those who are removed back again, to occur in the 400 who take a deck passage from Cork to London?—I have heard of none dying going over.

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1544. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Was it the practice in former years for a great many persons to go over to the harvest as working men, and to come back at their own expense to Ireland?—Yes.

1545. That number is greatly diminished now?—Very much.

1546. You say that about 20 a week arrive in Cork; are there a considerable number of those who go to Higgins's, or other lodging-houses, and do not get relief, or protection as you call it, in the bridewell?—There are.

1547. Would you say that more than one-half of them go to lodging-houses?—Much more than one-half.

1548. So that it is not the rule but the exception, then, going to the bridewell?—The exception of very destitute poor coming to the county of Cork.

1549. Sir *G. Grey.*] They form a very small proportion, then, of the number sent from England to Cork under orders of removal?—I think they do.

1550. The greater number of them do not arrive in that state of destitution?—They arrive in a very bad state, but those are people who are not able to get along themselves; they are old and feeble, or with young children; such cases as that.

1551. Sir *J. Young.*] Does a week ever pass without your being obliged to take a family to the bridewell under these circumstances?—Many weeks have passed that I have not had to do it.

1552. Mr. *Maguire.*] Has any one week passed in which a case of the kind has not come before the magistrates?—Lately, I believe not; I have not known a week.

1553. You have not known a week lately without such a case having come before the magistrates. Do you know of your own knowledge that three families have ever applied for relief in one morning?—Yes, they have.

1554. The cases of three families applying in one morning have been brought before the magistrates?—Yes.

1555. And there are several cases where parties have been brought before them on the arrival of the vessels from London, Liverpool, and Bristol?—Yes.

1556. So that, taking the average of the year round, there is no week when an application of the kind is not made to the magistrates?—I think there is not.

1557. Sir *J. Young.*] Were those last cases, cases of parties who had preferred begging to applying to you for relief; the cases which you mentioned of three in a morning. You stated a moment ago that several weeks had sometimes elapsed without your being obliged to take a family to the bridewell; since then you have stated that there have been three in a morning?—They have been taken by other parties.

1558. Were they begging?—For begging; I have before stated the manner in which they are taken; the police on patrol finds them in a doorway sitting, and having no place to go to, puts them in for protection for the night, at perhaps 12 or 1 o'clock at night..

1559. Mr. *Maguire.*] In fact, you would rather call it begging than say to the Committee that they were begging; they were destitute?—Yes, that is it.

1560. If an application for relief is made to the Poor-law authorities, do not you know that any person who is destitute has a right to relief from the Poor-law authorities?—I believe he has.

1561. Do you ever hear of an application being made unsuccessfully?—No.

1562. Speaking of the books of the bridewell, I believe you are perfectly right in the answer which you gave, that there are no remarks in reference to an individual case?—No; unless in such cases as I stated a while ago, where those who are able to work when they get back again, and make a declaration to that effect, may be sent by private contribution; in that case remarks are made.

1563. Are there remarks made by the constable who brings the party to the bridewell?—Yes, in the diary of the station to which the constable belongs.

1564. Do not all these persons come under the head of begging?—They do.

1565. As drunken people come under that head?—Yes.

1566. I think you say that some of those persons landed in Cork are transmitted to unions in various counties, such as Limerick, Kerry, Waterford, and Tipperary; do you know that?—I heard that they were; I know that Mr. Lee has been out of Cork, for I have been making inquiries, and have heard that he has been conducting some of them.

1567. Do you know that Mr. Frost has a larger amount of duty to perform between

between the time of the arriving and the sailing of the vessel than he can possibly perform?—He has.

1568. Will you just explain that to the Committee?—Supposing he has passengers for Kerry, Waterford, Limerick, and Tipperary, and the western part of the county of Cork, it would be impossible for him to leave Cork and go to each of those places and return before the sailing of the steamer; the steamer may arrive on Sunday evening, Monday morning, or Monday evening, or mid-day on Monday, and it sails on Thursday; he could not make time to go to all these places if he took them all there without losing the steamer, and being a week longer in Cork; in the one case which I have referred to, I believe he placed Higgins, and the woman stated that he gave 5*s.* to Higgins to have her sent on to Kilmallock or Knocklong.

1569. Is there not a greater anxiety on the part of the people, either in the country or town, to go to America than to go to England?—There is.

1570. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Have the removals from England, do you think, increased, comparing the last year with the year before?—I think they have not increased.

1571. Do you think that they are diminishing?—I think the number was greater last year.

1572. *Chairman.*] Than it is this year?—I think so.

1573. Colonel *Mure.*] I think I understood you to say that the average number of the lower class of Irish who went by the vessels from Cork to England, and I presume in the year, was about the same as the average of those removed back as paupers from England to Ireland?—There were a great deal more went than were removed back as paupers; there might go 300 or 400; there might average 200; and, taking the year round, I think the average would be 20 coming back. I stated that the general average number coming back was about equal to that going, but that the average number of paupers did not exceed 20.

1574. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is there a pauper migration from Ireland to England, as far as you know, at the present moment?—There is not.

1575. No vagrants go?—No.

1576. Has not mendicancy generally been put down in Ireland, as far as you know?—Very much.

1577. There is a greater desire to work, is there not, among the class who did prefer begging than before?—There is; it is easier to get employment than it has been.

1578. But it is the labouring class now, industrious people, who go from Ireland to England?—Yes.

1579. And none of the vagrant class go?—No.

1580. Colonel *Mure.*] You mention that you know, even now, that as many as 400 able-bodied Irish people go to England in one ship for the purpose of finding work in England; how do you reconcile that with your statement that henceforward, owing to the ample supply of work in Ireland, you do not think there will be any considerable amount of emigration?—They are getting more employment, and better wages, in Ireland now.

1581. Do not you think that if they go still at the rate of 400 in a ship, there being a good many ships continually going, that is rather against your statement, that you do not think that the rate of emigration, for the purpose of obtaining work in England, will continue to be large?—When I said 400, I did not mean at the present season; I meant last year.

1582. Mr. *Maguire.*] You were speaking of the harvest season?—Of the harvest season.

1583. Sir *J. Young.*] Does that 400 include the emigrants to America?—No.

1584. Mr. *Maguire.*] But do not those persons who thus go pay their own passage back; they do not come back as destitute people, if they do come back?—No; generally when they make a few pounds in England, 5*l.* or 6*l.*, they come back, and emigrate to America. I have known several cases where the working classes have gone to London to seek employment, and have got it, and made money, and gone to America.

George Hayward Lindsay, Esq., called in; and Examined.

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1585. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are a Guardian of the North and South Dublin Unions?—I am.

1586. And have filled the office for a number of years of Chairman of one of those Unions?—About four years, of the North.

1587. How long have you been a guardian?—Since the commencement of the poor-law system in Ireland, of the North Dublin Union.

1588. Have you made it your business to attend pretty regularly?—I have, very regularly.

1589. Have you more than one board-day in each week?—We have two board-days; one the general board-day, the other for the admission of poor people, and visiting the establishment, and so forth.

1590. Have you been in the habit of attending the admission board regularly?—Very regularly.

1591. You are aware of the object of the inquiry of this Committee?—Yes.

1592. Have you formed any opinion, which you wish to submit to the Committee, relating to the operation of the present law of removal of paupers from England to Ireland?—So long as the present system of chargeability continues in England, I cannot complain of English guardians availing themselves of the power of the law to transmit poor people to Ireland; but I think it is not done under proper regulations, and at present I think it acts with great severity to the poor people, and with great injustice to the ratepayers of some of the unions of Ireland, particularly to the ratepayers of the North Dublin Union.

1593. Will you point out the particular objections which you conceive there are against the present system?—First of all, I think that very few of these poor people come over with magistrates' orders of removal at all.

1594. Do you mean that there has never been any order of removal?—That they are sent over by the authorities of unions and parishes in England by their relieving officers or parties, without having been taken before a justice at all.

1595. And with no adjudication at all on the part of the magistrates?—With no adjudication at all, but that they have been removed and shipped off, upon application for relief in English workhouses, by the relieving officers and others, who have probably reported the cases to the Boards of Guardians, but who have sent them off without going before the magistrates at all.

1596. Can you state to this Committee any instances where Boards of Guardians or parochial authorities have of their own authority sent paupers from England to Ireland without the adjudication of the magistrates?—The two reasons which I have for saying so are these: almost every case of removal, where application has been made for admission to the North Dublin Workhouse, has come under my own observation, and having some little experience in examining people at petty sessions as a magistrate and so forth, I have come to the conclusion that very often these poor people have been telling the truth; sometimes otherwise; but numbers of them have told me that they have not been taken before justices at all, and therefore I am inclined to believe that a great many have not been removed by the authority of justices.

1597. On receiving information of that kind in a particular case, have you communicated with the union or parish in England from which it was said the removal had taken place, to see whether it was the fact?—These cases are frequently reported to the next board-day, and frequently the guardians have asked the Poor-law Inspector to make inquiry about these cases. But another reason which I have for saying that these poor people are removed without justices' orders is, that I have had conversation with one of the relieving officers of one of your London workhouses. I have talked to him a good deal, and I have asked him particularly as to this point, and he has told me that where any party has had an objection to take an oath before a magistrate, they have shipped him off without taking one.

1598. We must trouble you for the name of that person?—I do not know his name, but I know his person. He is one of the officers of the workhouse in Mount-street, of St. George's, Hanover-square; I could point out his person.

1599. An officer attached to that workhouse?—Yes.

1600. Is he a relieving officer, or workhouse master, or what?—I think he is relieving officer; but, at all events, I had a long conversation with him, and as far

far as I could judge, he appeared to have acted with very great discretion in many particulars, and with very great kindness to the poor people; but this was the information which he gave me, and I am rather inclined to think that he has acted with discretion, because I do not recollect any single case of a poor person who was removed from that district, whereas I have many cases of parties removed from St. Giles's and Westminster, and others.

1601. From any other of these places have you reason to believe that there has been a removal without legal authority?—I have.

1602. Have you ascertained it upon communication with the parties?—I cannot say that.

1603. You go by the statement of the pauper in those cases?—Very much by the statement of the pauper, which is very much corroborated in my mind by the statement which I received from this person in England.

1604. You are quite aware, I am sure, that a removal without the authority of a magistrate would be a decidedly illegal removal?—I believe so; and these poor people hardly ever produce the order in Dublin, and they always say they never had one; they know nothing at all about it; all they know is that the moment they have applied for relief they have been taken away by rail, and conducted to Liverpool, and shipped.

1605. Would you in a case where an allegation of that kind was made by a pauper, that there had been a decided illegality in the removal, at once acquiesce in the statement of that pauper, or would you think it right to communicate with these parties in England who were said to have acted illegally, to see whether they had so acted or not?—I do not think that the guardians have very much redress in that way, for upon one occasion, some years ago, there was a very gross case, I thought, of removal from York, and there the guardians requested me to have the case perfectly sifted.

1606. That was a case of an appeal, was not it, where you brought an appeal?—Yes.

1607. But have you communicated directly with the parish or union which was said to have been guilty of the illegal conduct?—I think the Poor-law Inspector, who is in the room, has inquired as to those matters, but that certainly is my impression.

1608. Have you had the result of his inquiries stated to you?—With respect to those people who are removed without order, I think it is a very difficult thing for the Poor-law Inspector to get any satisfactory knowledge.

1609. Shall we see the gentleman to whom you have been in the habit of referring; who is he?—Mr. Crawford.

1610. Is he here?—He is; but I will not say that he has directed his attention especially to that point, but that is very fully impressed upon my mind.

1611. Is it the practice in Ireland, when one Board of Guardians thinks it has reason to complain of another Board of Guardians in Ireland of any illegality of conduct, to communicate directly with that Board, and ask an explanation, and if that explanation is not satisfactory, to refer to the superior authorities?—I do not think we have ever occasion to do anything of the sort in Ireland, because we do not transmit.

1612. However, you are not able to state to this Committee any instances in which your Board of the North Dublin Union have communicated directly with any Board of Guardians in England, though you have agreed beforehand that the removal has been decidedly illegal?—That is, as to the order of justices?

1613. Yes. Have you, in any one of those cases, communicated with the Board of Guardians in England?—I do not recollect at this moment.

1614. Was the conversation with the person in Mount-street accidental?—I was rather anxious to find out what was done.

1615. Is it just now that you have had that conversation?—Yes.

1616. That is the first communication which you have had, directly or indirectly, with any of the authorities who are said to have acted illegally?—Just so; the only communication which I have personally had.

1617. Will you proceed in your own order with the objections which you have to the present system; will you go on to the next point?—I have a great many cases extracted from our books, which I do not like to weary the Committee with, but I think I can show a great many which are very severe.

1618. That is, where you have had statements made to you by the paupers that they have been either illegally or harshly removed?—Yes.

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1619. Are there many cases in which they state themselves to have been illegally removed?—They do not know.

1620. But in which you infer from the facts which they state to you that there has been illegality in the proceeding?—Yes; these statements after all are only statements, and unless there is any very good evidence indeed to show that their statements are true, I am not very much in the habit of wishing to take up the inspector's time by making further inquiries.

1621. We have been informed in the evidence which Mr. Power has given, that generally speaking, so far as he knows, the removal has been justifiable in point of law, though the law acts harshly?—I think so too; I think there are some cases of illegal removals, but generally speaking, supposing that they have gone before justices, I have no doubt the removals were legal.

1622. You have mentioned one kind of illegality which you think you have perceived in some of these cases; what other illegalities have you been made aware of, judging from the statements of the paupers?—There was a case of illegality of removal from York, and the guardians asked me to sift that case. We first of all made a communication to the Poor-law Board in London, and they considered the case a proper case to be further investigated; we then went through the usual form of lodging 100 *l.* towards any expenses that might arise out of that prosecution, and placed the case in the hands of very respectable solicitors in York. I thought that I perceived that there was an unwillingness in York to go on with this case quite as rapidly as it ought to have been gone on with, and there was also a little delay on the part of the Poor-law Board in London. I do not mean to impute any improper motive to them; but the result was, that what with one delay or another it certainly appeared to me that the people in York took care to push off the case; that they took care that the notices were not given quite in sufficient time; in short, it left the impression upon my mind that there was very little use indeed in an Irish Board of Guardians proceeding by law for redress.

1623. You are speaking now of the failure of an appeal, are you not?—Yes.

1624. You have mentioned, as one kind of illegality which you thought you perceived in some of these proceedings, that the parties had been sent without being taken before magistrates; is there any other kind of illegality which has come under your notice in the course of those proceedings?—I think there are some cases which I should believe, if the statements were true, were illegal; but at the same time, I do not like to impute bad motives to English Boards of Guardians at all; and as those statements have not been proved, I would not wish to press the Committee about it.

1625. What is the nature of the illegalities in those cases?—Having been for a long time more than five years residing in the same place; several cases of that sort.

1626. That persons have been sent to you who have been residing for five years in the same parish, and who therefore were protected from removal?—Without troubling the Committee very much upon that point, I myself do not very much care about those particular cases; I think that without all that there is a great hardship upon the ratepayers of the North Dublin Union in having to relieve many of these people, who have no more claim upon the North Dublin Union than they have upon those parishes from whence they have been removed; indeed I think they have more claim upon those parishes from whence they have been removed, because they have become destitute in those particular parishes, and we have no more to do in Dublin with most of those cases than any other union or parish in England.

1627. That is your view of the hardship?—Yes.

1627*. Is there any other hardship in the present law which you think it necessary to point out?—I think if one can believe the statements, these poor people have been hustled a good deal, and put on the deck of vessels in very inclement weather; they are chiefly women and infants and children, and those sort of classes, and they have arrived in Dublin knocked about very much, and in a destitute state. The moment they arrive they are directed to go to the nearest union, which they immediately do, and we receive them there at once.

1628. Then do they come at once to the North Dublin Union?—Straight.

1629. They do not go through any bridewell, as in Cork?—Not at all; there is no difficulty whatever in their being admitted into our union.

1630. What is your plan in Dublin with respect to them; is it understood by the

the police officers who are in waiting to see the packets come in, that they are to conduct the parties who are destitute to the Poor-law authorities?—Immediately.

1631. And that takes place?—Immediately.

1632. Mr. *Liddell.*] They do not go to the bridewell?—No.

1633. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Do you pass them on?—No, we have no power.

1634. Do you keep them distinct as vagrants, or amalgamate them?—We amalgamate them immediately.

1635. You classify and amalgamate them?—Yes.

1636. In any case do you forward them?—We have no power.

1637. But from private funds?—There are no private funds, that I know of.

1638. Not in Dublin?—No.

1639. Have you never heard of any case in which there has been any subscription by the guardians, or others interested in the removal, to pass them on to the place, as it is supposed, of their nativity, or to their relations?—Very few.

1640. Sir *G. Grey.*] Or to pass them back to England?—Very few.

1641. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Do they in fact in many cases become a permanent charge upon the North Dublin Union?—In many cases they become a permanent charge, but in the great majority of cases they go out.

1642. *Chairman.*] They discharge themselves?—Yes; we never discharge them ourselves.

1643. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Have not the numbers been very much on the decrease in the last few years?—I am sorry to say that in the last year there has been a very large increase indeed.

1644. Have you any figures which you wish to put before the Committee?—I have.

1645. *Chairman.*] What are the other points in which you think the operation of the present law objectionable?—For my own part I think that a destitute person should be relieved at the place or union where he becomes destitute, and I am very much indisposed, indeed, to worry poor people at all by removing them away from one place to another. I wish to apply the workhouse test to them, and unless they really are destitute, I do not think they will remain in the workhouse; also in the case of desertion by husbands, I would do everything to find out the husband, to pursue him, and to bring him to justice, if possible.

1646. Can you give the Committee any information as to the numbers of persons of this description received into the North Dublin Union?—I can.

1647. You have prepared yourself with some statements upon that point, have you not?—I have.

1648. What is the first which you have?—I will not refer back to the disastrous period in Ireland, as there will be no object in it I think at present; but after that period, in the years 1850, 1851, and 1852, the numbers were comparatively small.

1649. Have you your statement of those three years?—I have, and also the last year, ending March 1854, in which I shall show you a very remarkable increase.

1650. Do you go back at all beyond the year 1850?—I do not wish to go back beyond that, because those were exceptional times altogether, and for all practical purposes I do not think it necessary.

1651. Then, in point of fact, your statement does not go back beyond 1850?—No. In the year 1850 we only received 144 people into the North Dublin Union; in 1851 we received 164 into the North Dublin Union; and in the year 1852 we received 206; but in the year ending March 1854 we received 584.

1652. Sir *G. Grey.*] Sent back under orders of removal, or professing to be so sent back?—Professing to be sent back, under orders of removal, by the Poor-law authorities, as they always say, as far as our relieving officers could ascertain the point; but as these people come over without any document of any sort or kind, we cannot take the statements as absolutely certain. A great many more people, I believe, come over from Liverpool to Dublin in the course of the year; but numbers of those people I am inclined to think represent themselves to English parish authorities as destitute merely to get their passage paid over to Ireland; and I think so, because if they were really destitute they would be as destitute when they landed as when they left England, and therefore more would apply to the union; but as it is, 584 were received into the union for the year ending March 1854.

1653. *Chairman.*] Chiefly from Liverpool, I suppose?—Entirely from Liverpool,

pool, and of those 584, only 31 were born in the North Dublin Union, the others came from all parts of the country; some from Cork. The South Dublin Union is a much larger union, and a much richer union altogether; it is on the other side of the river. These poor people are all landed on the north side of the river, and consequently they are directed to come up to the north workhouse, but some of them wander about the town and find their way to the South Dublin Union. In that union, which is a great deal richer and with a much larger population, in the year ending March 25th of the present year, there were 178 only admitted; therefore showing the very great hardship and injustice to the ratepayers of the North Dublin Union in having to relieve such a very large proportion of people, with whom they have no more to do than any parish in England.

1654. Have you a corresponding statement for the South Dublin Union?—No; I have only the one year for the South Dublin Union; I do not take so much interest in the south as I do in the north.

1655. You have already told the Committee, that in your opinion the means of redress against an illegal removal are very insufficient under the law as it stands?—They appear to me to have been very insufficient in that particular case which I allude to; after that the Board of Guardians generally said, "There is no use in going on with any further case." In that instance, I must say that the Poor-law Board in London behaved remarkably liberally with us; feeling that they had made some little delay themselves, they very handsomely refunded our 100*l.*, and paid all themselves, so that we did not suffer by it.

1656. Sir *J. Trollope.*] When was that?—I think about 1847, or some such time.

1657. *Chairman.*] Do you know of any practice of sending persons back to this country who have been removed?—I do not like to state the thing as a fact, but I believe that some years ago it was the practice in many parts of Ireland to send people over to England; but I am very much inclined to think that that practice has ceased.

1658. Have you ever known Boards of Guardians, as such, to do so?—No, not at all.

1659. Have you known subscriptions among individual guardians, like those which we have heard of at Cork, for instance?—I have seen it, but it has been very rarely. In some particular case, which has appeared to the guardians one of very great hardship, I have seen it, but it has been upon very rare occasions.

1660. Are there any alterations in the present law which you are prepared yourself to suggest to the Committee, as expedient for them to recommend?—It appears to me that, if the present law is to be continued, it would be but justice to the ratepayers of Dublin, and particularly the ports where people are sent to, that some person should be sent over in charge, and that that person in charge should deliver those people to the union to which they belong; but I do not mean to conceal from the Committee that I think such a course would not only be attended with an enormous expense to English ratepayers, but also, I think, it would be defeated very frequently indeed, because in Ireland, where people are sent over to various parts, in particular districts, the same name prevails very much, and they might take a party over to a particular place and nobody might know anything at all about him. The registry of births I believe is rather deficient in many parts of Ireland, and I think there would be very great difficulty in getting any proof of a person's birth, provided he had been out of the place for a long time, and it appears to me that there would be very great difficulties in proving the place to which a party ought to be sent; it would involve, I think, more expense than the thing would be worth while, and therefore it is that I think it would be far better to do away with the system altogether, and to relieve a poor destitute person wherever he is found destitute.

1661. Would you have no removals at all then from England?—None.

1662. I do not know whether you heard Mr. Power's evidence?—No, I did not.

1663. He suggested removals in cases where persons had come over for the express purpose (if the magistrates were satisfied that that was the purpose) of begging in England, and throwing themselves upon charitable or parochial resources in England; he suggested that it would be proper to inflict a certain punishment, and to have those persons sent back to Ireland?—If they were punished first, which they richly deserve, and if they were then sent back again to the place which ought to support them, I should certainly have no objection to it; but

but I think you would find that practically there would be very great difficulty in sending those persons back to the places to which they really ought to be charged, and my object is to show that the ratepayers of the North Dublin Union have no more right to relieve one of those people who do not belong to the North Dublin Union than any parish in England.

1664. Sir *B. Hall.*] Would it be any improvement on the existing law that parties removed from England or Wales should be sent over with the depositions which were taken before the magistrates, and be sent to the nearest port as at present, and that then the authorities of that port should inquire into the circumstances of the cases, and be permitted to send the paupers on to the parish or union to which they belonged, and charge the expenses of such removal on the parish or union to which the parties might belong?—I think that that would certainly be a very much more equitable mode than exists at present, but I am very much afraid that still the authorities of those Irish ports would find a great difficulty in proving that a party had a right to relief in any union in Ireland; that is to say, in those cases, of which there are many, where people have passed a great part of their lives in England, and where their friends have all dispersed and have emigrated, or something or another, and that it would be very difficult to fix such a person's chargeability upon any one union; but of course, in many cases, it could be done, no doubt.

1665. Sir *G. Grey.*] Of that large number of persons who you said were received into the North Dublin Union, in the course of the last year, upon orders of removal in this country, what proportion had been a long time in England, according to their own statements?—I have a list of cases here, which shows that a great many people were 20 years and 30 years, 9 or 10 years, and a very long time indeed.

1666. Are you able to state what proportion of them had been a considerable time in England, and what proportion had been here only for a very short time?—My own recollection is, all these cases having come before before me, that very few of these people were a short time; that, for the most part, they were a considerable time.

1667. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Did they bring you any evidence of having been examined before the magistrates?—None.

1668. No documents of any sort were produced?—There have been some few cases where the captain of the packet had some notification; some form. The poor people land upon the quay without any sort of evidence of any legal removal.

1669. You have no verification of their statement, and of what they think fit to represent?—That is very true.

1670. Is it not possible that some of these parties might not have been removed from England at all?—I think they certainly have been removed from England. I think the inquiries which we make of these people show that; we can see in a moment they described their passage, and one thing or another. I have no reason to doubt that they have been really removed.

1671. But in many cases they stated that they had never been examined, or legally transmitted at all?—In some cases. They do not make use of the word "legally," because they do not know whether they have been legally or illegally transmitted.

1672. Do they ever state whether they have been required to sign any paper?—Some do, but many not.

1673. Supposing this power of transmission to Ireland was retained in common with the law of settlement and removal in England, would it not obviate a great deal of your objection to it if these parties were transmitted with documents to show that they had been legally examined and legally passed?—Very much, indeed, provided that you go a step further, and give us the power of sending them to their proper places.

1674. Or that the authorities in England should remove them to the place of their settlement?—That I wish particularly, because I am quite sure that if they try that plan for a year or two, they will give up the removal altogether.

1675. Then you think that removals from England would altogether cease, from the great difficulty of proving settlement, and the consequent expense?—I think so.

1676. Sir *G. Grey.*] What proportion of these people are able-bodied?—They are never able-bodied; you hardly ever get an able-bodied person at all; they

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are almost all women and children, or some few broken down men; we have no able-bodied men at all in our unions.

1677. No able-bodied men or able-bodied women have been sent from this country under orders of removal to Dublin?—There may have been some few women able-bodied, but in the great majority of cases they are women with children, or broken down persons.

1678. Then they are not persons who could have maintained themselves here by their labour?—Not at all.

1679. Sir *J. Young.*] Do you suppose that if this law of removal were repealed, as you recommend, there would be much danger of England being inundated by an influx of Irish pauperism?—I really think that day has gone by; I do not see how the Irish paupers are to get over to England.

1680. Do you suppose that the difference of the wages in this country, as compared with those in Ireland, even with what the wages are in Ireland, would not be sufficient to tempt them over here?—The able-bodied men, I think, still would certainly be tempted over to England, because though wages have been raised in Ireland to a certain degree, still I think they are extremely low at present.

1681. The complaints appear to have been of able-bodied men who have either died or fallen into sickness, and their families have become chargeable; do you think that that would be a heavy burthen upon England?—In those cases, as far as they have come under my knowledge, the husbands who have been in England have been there a very long time, and the widows and children have been sent over there. In some cases their husbands have deserted them, or have gone to look for employment, or something of that sort, and their wives have applied for relief, and have been sent over in the absence of their husbands. There are also many cases, if we are to believe these statements, where a woman has applied for relief during the temporary absence of her husband, and she and a child or two have been sent over to Dublin, leaving her husband and two or three more children in England; and it is frequently stated that they hurry them so much from the workhouses to send them on board ship that they do not give them a reasonable opportunity of communicating with their people, and that in this sort of way their little furniture is sold, and so on. I do not wish to exaggerate, and I wish to be as exact as possible; and therefore I always wish to state that there is no very perfect evidence of all this; it is more from the statements of the people; but they are made in such a way that I really believe a great many of the statements.

1682. Then your statement goes to this, that in the case of a *bonâ fide* industrial residence in England the relief of the parties, when distress took place, would more properly fall upon the union or parish in England than in Ireland?—I think so.

1683. Some exception has been taken to the statement of the improvement of wages in Ireland on account of the continued emigration; to what do you attribute the continuance of the emigration from Ireland to America and to this country?—I think the continued emigration is to be attributed very much to the circumstance of some members of a family having gone on before them, and having got into good employment, and with the kind feelings which the poor Irish people have to an immense degree, they save every farthing they can to send over to bring out the rest of their people, and in that way I think a great many people will still emigrate.

1684. Large sums of money have been sent from America for the purpose of assisting relatives in Ireland?—Large sums.

1685. So long as those sums continue to be sent, do you think the emigration will continue?—I do.

1686. Then though the wages of labour in Ireland have been raised, and the condition of the people is generally better, is that improvement at all equal to the facilities which you speak of, of obtaining employment, and the condition to which they may attain in America?—I think they are tempted still by the higher rate of wages in America, certainly.

1687. By the assistance which they receive, and being able to place themselves in an independent position?—I think so; I do not think the wages in Ireland are sufficient for a man to support himself and his family decently.

1688. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are the Committee to understand that any statements respecting the condition of the persons admitted, to the North Dublin Union in particular, are taken completely from personal observation?—I think that for years

years there has hardly a person been admitted into the North Dublin Union that has not come under my own eye.

1689. You stated that this information is derived altogether from the statements of the paupers?—It is.

1690. In point of fact, you have no other means whatever of ascertaining the truth?—The only other means we have is, that whenever we think that any case is particularly hard, we refer that case to the Poor-law inspector, who examines the parties upon oath; and I believe he will tell you that he finds that the case is a very hard case, but that it has been a legal removal.

1691. With reference to an important statement which you made in the earlier part of your examination, as to the want of an order of justices for the removal, you derive that impression mainly from the fact that the paupers who apply for relief in the North Dublin Union are not aware of any such order having been issued?—They are not aware of any such order.

1692. If the order were issued in a hasty or irregular way, without a previous examination of the pauper, he necessarily could not be aware of it at all?—Not at all.

1693. Therefore we are not to conclude that no order has been issued, but that their impression is that a sufficient inquiry has not been made by the magistrates before any order, if such existed, was given?—I also mean to convey that many of these people say that they were never taken before a justice at all, and therefore there could have been no examination, and could have been no order, because they never appeared before a justice at all.

1694. If the practice were in Liverpool, that a large number of these persons were collected together, and that a magistrate went into a room, and made an order without inquiring in detail into the case of each party, it is very possible that they would not be aware of it?—It is very possible; but in that case, I think the paupers ought to have an opportunity of making some observations to the magistrate; because if they had an opportunity, and if the magistrate was satisfied that the people being removed were Englishmen, or something of that sort, most likely the magistrate would not act upon the statement of the relieving officer, or whoever else was removing these people.

1695. With reference to questions put by the Right honourable Baronet on the other side as to removal to the place of birth, I think you have stated that although if the law continues in its present state, you desire to have the paupers removed to the place of birth in Ireland, you think that it would cause great difficulty and expense to the parishes in England; in addition to that, do you think that it would cause a considerable amount of dispute and ill feeling between neighbouring Boards of Guardians in Ireland as to which of them was properly entitled to receive paupers so transmitted?—I am quite sure that the Boards of Guardians in Ireland would not be at all hospitably inclined towards these people, and I have no doubt that they would throw obstacles in the way of receiving these people, and that it would give rise to disputes.

1696. You think, therefore, that it would interfere with the good and harmonious working of the law in Ireland?—I think very likely.

1697. Do you think that it would be likely also to cause hardship to the paupers?—That is my principal objection to these removals altogether. I think that the poor people are very much knocked about. My next objection is the expense to the ratepayers, of which I happen to be, I believe, one of the heaviest and the largest in the union; but that I look upon quite as secondary to the hardship which these people go through.

1698. You stated that in addition to the 584 persons received into the North Dublin Union and the 178 into the South Dublin Union, you believe that a large number had come over who had not applied for relief in either union?—I think so; because, though I cannot ascertain the fact, yet I believe that a much larger number of people are removed from Liverpool to Dublin than take refuge in the Dublin Unions, and that therefore that surplus moves away to different places without seeking relief at all.

1699. You have not been able to ascertain as a matter of fact, though you stated an impression to that effect, that any persons have come over who merely applied for relief in England for the purpose of obtaining transmission to Ireland?—No, I do not know the fact; but it appears to me that if more people come over from Liverpool to Dublin than seek for relief when they arrive in Dublin, in all probability those people must have imposed upon English Boards of Guardians,

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because, if they were really destitute, they would be as destitute when they arrived in Dublin as they were before, and they would apply for relief at the workhouses.

1700. Is it within your knowledge that persons are apprehended by the police begging in Dublin, who have just been removed?—I think not.

1701. You do not hear of cases of that kind?—I think not; the orders of the police are, if they see any persons destitute, either upon their arrival, or in the streets, day or night, to take them straight up to the union in which they are found destitute, without any difficulty whatever, and in bad cases they are admitted during the night, at all hours of the night. It is one of the things that I have been most particular about.

1702. Having taken an active part in the management of the North Dublin Union for many years, are you able to speak of your knowledge upon that?—I am.

1703. Colonel *Mure*.] Would not the difficulty of deciding whether a man is a pauper or not, or whether he has been properly removed or not, be obviated by the regulation that a pauper from any part of England should come provided with a certificate sufficiently signed, as he takes a railway ticket, and that he should deliver that certificate to the authorities in Ireland to prove that he is a genuine pauper, and that there has been no illegality whatever?—I think that would not be sufficient, unless there was some party in charge. If there was a person in charge, and that person produced the several certificates which you allude to, then that undoubtedly would show that the paupers had been quite properly removed.

1704. Why do you think that the fact of their being provided with a certificate of that description would not of itself prove a sufficient check, just as a person takes a ticket on a railway, and travels 400 miles, and if at the end he presents that ticket, it is sufficient?—It would certainly to a very great extent be satisfactory, but these parties might change their tickets, or might lose them.

1705. With respect to emigration, is it not the case that, in the former state of Ireland previous to the famine, there was great aversion on the part of the general population of Ireland to emigration; even in their then poor and degraded state, compared to what they are now?—So long as a party could get a quarter of an acre to feed him for part of the year he would not emigrate.

1706. Then the result of the famine, however lamentable in other respects, has been very beneficial with regard to that particular point?—Most beneficial.

1707. Mr. *Liddell*.] You have stated, and with great justice, the hardship to which the North Dublin Union is exposed in the support of paupers with whom, in point of fact, it has no connexion, in consequence of the removals which take place from various parts of England, as I understood you, to the port of Dublin?—Yes.

1708. You have stated also that you wish to see the law of removal abolished, and in all cases the relief to take place where the destitution exists?—Yes.

1709. Does it not occur to you that many places in England, particularly the port of Liverpool, may have just the same complaints, and the same difficulties to contend against, as you have described in the port of Dublin?—Certainly they have; and I think that Liverpool has suffered most fearfully, particularly during the great famine years.

1710. And you think that some check or other should exist, in order to rescue the town of Liverpool from the demand which would otherwise be made upon it?—My impression is, that by the application of the workhouse test in Liverpool, they would relieve themselves of imposition.

1711. Would it not be difficult to obtain workhouse room to apply that test?—You are not so well provided with workhouse accommodation in England as we are in Ireland.

1712. When you consider the numbers that are brought to Liverpool from Ireland, would it not be almost impossible to provide workhouse accommodation, so as to apply that test?—My impression is, that of the mass of those people who go over to apply for relief, if you apply the workhouse test, you will find that the numbers will be very few indeed comparatively.

1713. I will read you a case which has occurred: Mr. Rushton, in his evidence before the Committee in 1847, is asked at question 4397, "Has there been any recent great increase in the numbers of Irish coming into Liverpool from any peculiar circumstances," and he answers, "An American ship called the 'Rochester,' having on board 250 Irish people going to the United States, was wrecked

wrecked last week on the coast of Ireland, I think on the Arklow Bank.—On what coast is that? Wexford; those poor people were taken to the town of Wexford; the captain of the 'Rochester,' who is, I understand, part owner of the ship, and who would be looked to for a return of the passage-money, was on the spot; yet notwithstanding this, the mayor of Wexford put all those destitute persons on board a steamer and sent them consigned to the mayor of Liverpool, as he said, to obtain justice and charity in Liverpool; the mayor sent for me three days ago, and those unfortunate people, almost destitute of everything, having lost their bread stuffs and bedding, except the clothes in which they stood, were assembled before the Town Hall of Liverpool, augmenting the already shocking difficulties with which we have had to contend." Where cases of this sort have been cited to have existed, would it not be necessary if the law of removal were altogether abolished from England, to apply some sort of restriction upon transmissions of that kind from Ireland?—It appears to me, that if the mayor of Wexford, or any poor-law guardians of Wexford, did such an act as that, they ought to be severely punished, be it Wexford, or be it Dublin, or be it any other place in Ireland, if instead of sheltering and relieving those destitute poor persons who have become destitute in the way you mention, they send them over to Liverpool to be relieved; I think they ought to be severely punished.

1714. Some steps should be taken then, to prevent such transactions in future?—I have not the least objection that punishment should fall upon the right person.

1715. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Had not those people already taken their passage from Liverpool, and are not the Liverpool agents bound to find those people their passage to America?—I do not know.

1716. Had not the passage of those people been taken with a house in Liverpool, who were bound by law to find them their passage to America, they not being in the slightest degree destitute when they either arrived in Liverpool, or left Liverpool?—If that was the case, if the agent contracted to do a certain thing, and if the agent did not do it, then the punishment ought to fall upon the head of the agent, and not upon the poor-law guardians.

1717. Mr. *Liddell.*] I will read an answer to another question, 4401: "Have there been any other instances of the local authorities in Ireland having aided in sending over the Irish destitute poor to Liverpool?" The Witness answers, "When the Honourable Member asks me about my own knowledge, I have necessarily no legal knowledge upon the subject, but from the examination of persons myself, I am persuaded that the local authorities and landowners have sent them to a large extent"?—I think I said exactly the same thing; but I think that you are quoting from 1847.

1718. I am quoting from 1847?—I believe myself, though I have no knowledge of it, that it was very extensively done by landlords and others in a very improper manner indeed in those years, but distress will make people do things which they would be very sorry to do at other times, and I hope that those years have passed; I mean to say that I do not think that that sort of thing is likely to occur again.

1719. You do not apprehend a recurrence of the circumstances which took place in Ireland in the year 1847?—If it please God, we shall never see such dreadful things again.

1720. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is there not another police force in Dublin besides the Government police?—There is the metropolitan police, the city police; it is as much Government as the constabulary.

1721. Are there not different rules and regulations for their control than those for the Government police; would you, as poor-law authorities, have any control whatsoever over the Government police there?—We have no control whatever over any police, constabulary or metropolitan; not the slightest.

1722. How far is the union workhouse from the place where the paupers are landed?—I think it is a short English mile; three-quarters of a mile.

1723. Then it is the most convenient place to which a poor person could have access?—Certainly.

1724. Do you know, of your own knowledge, whether there are instructions given to the constabulary?—There are no constabulary in Dublin at all; they are all metropolitan police.

1725. Do you know, of your own knowledge, whether they have positive orders to watch for the arrival of the vessel, and to send destitute people to the union workhouse?—I have no knowledge of the sort at all.

1726. Do you know that they do it invariably?—I do not know it. I have said, that the moment those destitute poor persons were landed upon the quay, that moment they were directed by somebody or another to go straight up to the workhouse.

1727. Who are the persons who so direct them?—I cannot say. It is very probable and certain that some of the police are about the place, as they are constantly walking backwards and forwards, and they would of course recommend them to go there.

1728. Is it at all improbable that a number of those persons might escape the vigilance of the most benevolent police, and rove about the town for awhile?—Some do.

1729. Supposing a steamer arrived at seven or eight o'clock in the evening, and there was no person representing either the municipal or Poor-law authorities, is it not possible that some of those persons would not know where to apply?—Some people might not know where to apply.

1730. And, in point of fact, might not go to the union workhouse that night?—Some might not. If they had a farthing or a penny in their pocket, they might perhaps go and take a lodging, or go to a place in Dublin called the Night Asylum, where people can get shelter for the night without paying anything at all.

1731. Do you know of your own knowledge that persons taking a passage on board a vessel are bound to be supported by the owner or charterer of that vessel?—I have no particular knowledge of the contracts.

1732. Especially when accidents occur?—I have no knowledge upon that point.

1733. Is not there a contract entered into when a person takes a passage on board a vessel to a certain place?—I presume there is, but I have no particular knowlege of my own.

1734. Have you ever heard of persons paying maintenance-money?—I have.

1735. And in case they refuse to pay the maintenance-money, is not the proper course then to apply for redress where the passage was taken, or where the contract was entered into?—If a party has entered into a contract with another to do a certain thing, of course that party applies to the person whom he has made the contract with.

1736. In point of fact, is there not a contract entered into between the owner or charterer of the vessel and passenger every time a passage is taken?—It would depend upon what the contract was, whether it was for their passage or their food, or what it was.

1737. I was particularly struck with an answer which you gave to this effect, that there was no occasion to communicate between one Irish Board and another for the purpose either of explanation or redress, is that the fact at the present moment?—I understood the question put to me to be about any poor people that might belong to another union, or something of that sort.

1738. Generally speaking, in fact, there is a most friendly feeling between the different unions in Ireland at the present moment?—Very much so indeed.

1739. There is no litigation between them?—Not the slightest that I know of.

1740. If Law of Settlement were established in the country, would not it give rise to litigation in Ireland, as it has given rise to litigation in England?—I think so.

1741. And you would be very sorry to see that good feeling which at present exists done away as it would be?—Very sorry indeed.

1742. You particularly refrained from committing yourself as to a full reliance upon the statements of those paupers to whom you referred, but so far as you can rely upon those statements, have not many cases of alleged separation between members of families come before you?—They have.

1743. Taking a large per centage for reasonable incredulity, could you say of your own knowledge that a great many cases have arisen where great injury has resulted from the separation of families?—I can hardly say of my own knowledge.

1744. But as far as you can form a judgment?—I firmly believe that such has taken place.

1745. Speaking

1745. Speaking of legal and illegal removals, from your experience is not the greatest hardship consequent upon legal removals in many instances?—I think there is a very great hardship; I think the poor people have suffered very great hardship indeed in legal removals.

1746. Do you think that any change in the law whatever could obviate the injustice of removing industrious poor from the country in which they have employment, but in which they have suffered from accident or temporary illness?—I will not say that anything which is legal is unjust, because if it is done under proper regulations; if the law is carried out in a proper manner, I cannot venture to charge the thing as being unjust.

1747. Suppose the case of a person who had lived 20 years in the country, and had gone from parish to parish in search of work, but had always supported himself by his industry, and that that person in one parish fell ill, or could not procure employment, do not you think his removal from England to Ireland would be a very great hardship, the law notwithstanding?—I will not go so far as to say that, but I should be very glad indeed to see that law altered, and that destitution should be relieved wherever it took place.

1748. Do not you think the country which had gained by the industry of that man ought to be burthened with the support of that man in case of illness, or idleness; idleness which was not his own fault?—It is rather a difficult thing to know where idleness is without a man's own fault.

1749. I think you go further than even I do; you say that any destitution should be relieved in the place where it occurs?—I think so; that is what I should wish.

1750. Supposing an industrious man has given the first years of his life in any one country, do not you think that that man should be supported in that country, in case of illness?—I think it is a hard thing that he should be turned out, but as long as it was the law I would not say it was unjust.

1751. Suppose the law were repealed in England, what would be the feeling if it were not repealed as far as Ireland is regarded?—I do not think I can answer for the feeling.

1752. Have you ever heard an expression of opinion, even as the law exists at the present moment; is not there a very strong feeling against the law at the present moment?—I think there is.

1753. You know that there is?—Certainly.

1754. Is not there a general feeling against it?—I think there is a feeling against it.

1755. That is, even as it is at present; but supposing the law were abrogated in this country, and continued so far as Ireland is concerned, what would be the feeling?—I think that that would be very unjustifiable indeed; I should hope that no such law would ever find favour in the British Parliament.

1756. Upon mature consideration, you then give it as your opinion that the best possible thing which the Legislature can do, is to repeal the law as far as both countries are regarded?—That is my impression.

1757. And that no amount of emendation can cure the radical defect which would result from even a modification of the law?—I think so.

1758. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Does not your experience as a guardian, and having been chairman for many years of the North Dublin Union, lead you to believe that the workhouse test has proved very effective in Ireland, as a test of destitution?—I think it has proved very effective in the North Dublin Union.

1759. Do you recollect the period of famine, when the workhouse test was substituted for out-door relief?—Yes.

1760. Will you state to the Committee generally the result of the substitution of that test for the mode of administering relief out of doors?—Perhaps I can answer that question in a very complete manner.

1761. Were you chairman of the North Dublin Union?—No; at that moment I was not chairman of the North Dublin Union, but at that particular moment in the North Dublin Union we were relieving 3,500 people within the walls of our workhouse, and we were feeding daily about 22,000 people outside the walls of the workhouse. The Government decided that upon a particular day, the day I think was the 15th day of August, all this business of feeding, which had been committed to the charge of committees, should be vested solely and entirely in the Poor-law guardians, and they said that from that date the guardians must provide for all this feeding. Most of the guardians of the union to which I allude, the North Dublin, did not believe that the Government were serious. If I am wrong

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in anything which I have stated, there is no man who can correct me better than Mr. Ball, who was the Poor-law inspector of that union at that particular time. At last, the chairman of that day came to the belief, that in a very few days more this enormous charge was to rest entirely upon the guardians; the chairman of that day also happened to be Lord Mayor of Dublin that year, but he could not bring his mind to believe that the guardians would really have such a duty imposed upon them. For my part, I was perfectly satisfied that the Government intended to do it, and I also was extremely anxious that they should do it, to put a stop as I thought, to the lavish expenditure of money which was going on. Only three or four days before this day arrived, the chairman, Mr. Ball, and myself went about Dublin to see what provision we could make for the following Monday; we made certain arrangements, but among others, we got hold of a building into which we could put 400 beds. The morning came. I went down myself to the place where the people were all congregated; thousands of people looking for their food. There were a quantity of the metropolitan police of course in the neighbourhood; I requested them to move about, and to tell the people that, from that date, only the very old and broken-down people would receive any out-door relief at all, the great mass of these people being able-bodied people. I directed them to tell these people that we had plenty of room for everybody who wished to come into the house. I went on for a week admitting people; the first day, four or five o'clock in the afternoon came, and I had filled about 390 of my 400 beds; but the others, when they found that they had to go into a workhouse, and were not to receive out-door relief, moved away. At the end of that week, instead of having 22,000 people on our books for out-door relief, it was reduced to rather under 3,500.

1762. So that, under the extraordinary and difficult circumstances which you have described, accommodation for 400 people in the workhouse proved to be a sufficient means of discharging yourselves from that enormous number of persons who were relieved out-of-doors?—It did.

1763. That being the case, have you any doubt in your own mind that a stringent application of the workhouse test in Liverpool would have the effect of preventing Liverpool from being inundated by destitute Irish?—That is precisely what I wished to convey to Mr. Liddell.

1764. Are you favourable to a law of settlement in connexion with the administration of the Poor Laws in Ireland?—Not at all.

1765. It was suggested that it might be a desirable plan to amend the means of sending paupers to the place of their birth who might be removed from England; in your opinion, would it involve a change of the law, and entail upon Ireland a law of birth-settlement?—I think it would be very unadvisable indeed.

1766. In your opinion, would it be contrary to the principle and scope of the present Poor-law system in Ireland?—Decidedly; our system now in Ireland is to relieve destitution wherever it is found.

1767. I think you also stated, that the power of transmitting paupers from the ports where they were landed, to the interior where they were born, would be attended also with a serious aggravation of the hardships upon the paupers themselves?—I am afraid so.

1768. Mr. *Maguire*.] I think you stated, that there was an unwillingness to emigrate in case a person had even a quarter of an acre of land?—I think, before the famine there was a great unwillingness in the Irish poor people to leave their place of residence, their places of birth.

1769. Do you know of your own knowledge that many of those who emigrate at the present moment are even strong farmers?—I am quite aware of it.

1770. And that the farming population have as much tendency to emigrate as even the labouring population?—I think a most extraordinary change has taken place in Ireland, about the feelings of the people in leaving their homes.

1771. Do you find that feeling in the city as well as in the agricultural districts?—I should think not so much.

1772. Do you find it among mechanics, labourers and domestic servants, and persons of that class?—To a great extent, but I do not think to the same extent as in the provinces.

1773. As to the probability of the present emigration continuing, would it be dependent to a considerable degree upon the large number of persons belonging to the individual families in America, who are anxious to have the remaining members of their families with them?—I think very much so.

1774. And to your own knowledge, is it not the fact, that a considerable proportion of families are now resident in America?—Yes, certainly.

1775. There was something said about the magistrates, or individual guardians of the City of Cork entering into subscriptions. Suppose a case of this kind to come before you; you say, first of all, that even upon an illegal removal you have given up the idea of anything like seeking redress?—I have, in my own mind.

1776. In fact, you would not like to risk many hundreds of pounds in going to law in an English Court?—I should be very unwilling to risk money in law proceedings anywhere.

1777. There have been some cases of private subscriptions among the Guardians of the Union?—Very rarely.

1778. Where their sympathy was called forth by the peculiar circumstances of the case?—It has been so, occasionally.

1779. Or, I suppose, in a case of this kind, where persons have represented that it would be a great advantage to them to be sent back again, that they could find employment?—Yes; that requires to be done with very great care, otherwise you might do a great injustice.

Ralph Cusack, Esq., called in; and Examined.

1780. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are a Magistrate for the county of Dublin?—I am:

1781. Are you at present chairman of the North Dublin Union?—I am.

1782. You succeeded Mr. Lindsay, I believe?—Yes.

1783. Are you also a Guardian of the South Dublin Union?—I am.

1784. Are you also a Guardian of two additional country Unions?—I am.

1785. What are they?—Dunshaughlin, in the county of Meath, and Balrothery, in the county of Dublin.

1786. How many years have you paid particular attention to the working of the Poor-law in Ireland?—I have been a Guardian about four years; but not quite two years Guardian of the North Dublin Union.

1787. Have you been present during the examination of Mr. Lindsay?—I have.

1788. Do you concur generally with him in the views which he takes as to the operation of the present law?—To some extent I do.

1789. Will you be so good as to state anything which you have to lay before this Committee, with regard to the operation of the present law; you know the object of their inquiries here?—I think that the present law is attended with very great injustice to Ireland; the fact of a large number of persons being sent over to us, who have resided for the greater part of their lives in England, and we have no means whatever of either sending parties to England or transmitting them on to other unions.

1790. Is there any other point which occurs to you?—I also think, that the manner in which they are conveyed from England, regardless of the inclemency of the weather, is a very great hardship upon the persons themselves, and their being sent to one of four or five particular unions, and not to the place of their birth.

1791. Does anything else occur to you?—I think parties being separated from their families is a hardship, and a number of instances have occurred which I am aware of.

1792. Will you give the cases which you are aware of. I suppose, as in Mr. Lindsay's case, you must proceed entirely upon the statements of the paupers themselves?—Entirely; but I have examined those parties themselves and have reason to believe that their statements were perfectly correct.

1793. Have you in any case corresponded with the English unions or parishes removing, so as to check, in any way, the paupers' statements to you?—No; we have represented it to the Irish Commissioners, and they have, from time to time inquired, through their inspector, into the matter.

1794. That is Mr. Crawford?—Yes, but I believe we have proceeded in no case since the case mentioned by Captain Lindsay.

1795. You have not proceeded with any appeal?—No; in fact the process is so tedious and expensive that we think it almost useless.

1796. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Have you recently examined many of those paupers who have been removed from England, and who are now in the North Dublin Union workhouse?—Yes, I have examined, I think, nearly all the parties.

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1797. Are there many of those cases which afford means of testing the truth of those parties, irrespective of their own statements?—The statements so accurately lead to the same thing that I would say they are perfectly correct, and some of them have given me the correct directions where they resided in London.

1798. And those are recent cases?—The parties are at present in the North Dublin Union workhouse.

1799. And the examination which you have made has been of recent date?—Within the last few days.

1800. So that if there are parties connected with those people, as they state, residing in London, an opportunity may easily be taken of testing the truth of their statements?—It is quite easy.

1801. Will you be good enough to mention some of those instances?—I have a large number; here is one which could be accurately tested. This woman is at present in the North Dublin Union workhouse; I examined her myself as to the facts, and she stated to me that she was ready to depose on oath to them.

1802. Sir *G. Grey.*] From what parish was she removed?—If you will allow me I will read it: "Belinda Prosser, 35 years of age. Widow and three children, admitted 6th of May 1853. Sent from England by the authorities of the parish of Lambeth, London, where she resided for 13 years. The three children were born in the above parish; she was nine years in one house, No. 23, King-street, Lambeth-walk, and rented a house. Her husband was a police constable, Metropolitan, 53, L. Division; he died 7 October 1852. As far as she knows, she was born in England, her father being in the army, a soldier, 30th Regiment of Foot. She was only a fortnight in the workhouse. She offered the Guardians there that if they let her out of the workhouse, she would not again trouble them; they refused to let her go, but sent her to Dublin. Her husband was a soldier's son, and born in Malta." Now, of course, that was perfectly illegal, I take it, according to the English Act; the facts are so very clear, that it is quite easy to test them.

1803. Was that case brought under the notice of the Poor Law Inspector, with a view to institute some inquiry; I do not say with a view to appeal?—I am not aware that Prosser's case was, but we have brought many under his attention equally as bad.

1804. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Is that person still in the workhouse?—She was a few days since.

1805. And these facts can be easily verified?—Yes.

1806. Sir *G. Grey.*] You say that you have brought many cases equally bad under the notice of the Poor Law Inspector; has inquiry been made by the Poor Law Inspector into cases of illegal removal, such as that appears to have been, and if so, what has been the result of that inquiry?—He has made inquiry from time to time, and has reported, and the Commissioners have told us that it was a case of appeal, if we wished.

1807. Is Mr. Crawford the Inspector?—He is.

1808. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Will you proceed with some other cases in which you have the names of the parties where they resided in this country, and the circumstances under which they were removed?—"Alicia O'Neill, 30 years of age, with one child, states that her husband, James O'Neill, was discharged from the 5th Fusileer Guards, without a pension; got a situation as convict keeper at Woolwich; that she saw him the day before she made application for relief, when he refused to give her any support; that the reason of her making application for relief was with the view of having her husband compelled to support her; that notwithstanding having made the above statement to the authorities at Westminster, she was, by their order, sent over to Dublin. Is a native of King's county."

1809. *Chairman.*] Does it state what parish in Westminster?—No; she was brought before the authorities at Westminster.

1810. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Have you the case of Margaret Heffernan?—I have the case of another woman, who gave me the correct address of her husband; Heffernan's case was on a different point. "Margaret Heffernan, 67 years (lame), was admitted on the 7th of September 1853; stated that she was born in Waterford, and resided for the last 50 years in St. Hillier's, Jersey; that she made application for relief and was admitted into the workhouse there; that in the course of a few days she was sent from Jersey to Plymouth, put on board a steamer and landed in Dublin against her will, without the order of a magistrate; had

had four sons and one daughter in Jersey; her husband served in the 44th Regiment for 37 years; was sent away without her knowledge or consent, or communicating with her sons."

1811. Sir *G. Grey.*] Sent away from Jersey?—Sent away from Jersey to Plymouth, and then transmitted on. I have a number of cases where they give the parish.

1812. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Will you proceed with the cases and select those which you think, upon the whole, the most advisable to state, no matter what point they refer to?—Here is a case of "Catherine Rutherford, 55 years of age; she states that she resided 35 years in England; say Manchester six months, Sheffield one year and a half, Derbyshire six months, Hull 33 years; that her husband died in Cheltenham, February 1853; that he was butler with Sir William Burdett; that she was sent from England by the authorities, May 1853; that she was 33 years in one parish, and never sought relief for that period; rented two houses, one weekly and the other yearly; paid rates, &c.; had seven children, all born in England, two now alive; applied for relief to the Hull Union Workhouse on or about April 1853; was five weeks in that workhouse; was born in the county of Wexford, and that she was sent to Dublin against her will, and does not know what became of any property her husband had." She is still in the North Dublin Union.

1813. You examined that person yourself?—I did.

1814. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she say what induced her to apply for relief?—Most of them state that they apply when they are unwell, and I think I have among them four or five women who in their confinements went in.

1815. In that case it appears that her husband had property, and she did not know what had become of it; had she made any inquiries about the property?—She stated to me that her friends were arranging to have some furniture and things sold; that she was not well.

1816. Did she say whether her friends had refused to support her, or what was her reason, she having those friends and that property, for applying for relief at the Hull workhouse?—I do not remember; I took it down from her; the master had gone round before, and I went and examined those people myself.

1817. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Have you Charles Daniel's case?—Yes; he is an Englishmen; we have two people who are English. "Charles Daniel, 64 years of age, was born at Macclesfield, where he resided for 13 years, and in the same parish, during which time he never received relief; paid rent, rates, &c.; is a native of Portland, in Dorsetshire; his father an Englishmen."

1818. Sir *G. Grey.*] In these cases, which appeared to be obviously illegal removals, did the parties state whether they had been taken before a magistrate and made any declaration as to their place of birth?—I think that very generally they have not been taken before a magistrate.

1819. In these cases which you have now stated to the Committee, did you ask that question, or did they state whether they had been taken before a magistrate and made any declaration as to their place of birth?—In that case it is not stated.

1820. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Have you any doubt of that man being an Englishman?—Not the slightest; there is a woman also who is an Englishwoman.

1821. You could judge by their accent?—Yes.

1822. *Chairman.*] The Committee desire to have one or two cases, if they can, where the parties have stated that they had not been taken before a magistrate?—I think I can give you a good many; there is the case of a man who was sent from Liverpool, named Michael Flinn, "admitted into the North Dublin Union Workhouse on the 9th of May 1853; sent from Liverpool by the Poor-law authorities; he stated that he had lived for the last 30 years in Liverpool; the last 10 years of which he resided in the same house; he was not destitute, but having been injured by a fall he was taken to the West Derby Union; and when recovered was kept in custody and sent against his will to Dublin, although having a bill in his possession for 14*l.* 10*s.*, money due to him." Now there can be no doubt about that fact, because the bill was in his possession.

1823. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Have you read the whole statement?—Yes.

1824. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] The man met with an accident, and was removed, in consequence of the accident, to another union workhouse?—Yes; he was not destitute, but having been injured by a fall, he was taken to the West Derby Union.

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1825. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Did you ascertain where the house was situated in which he lived?—I did not. In the case of Margaret Heffernan, which I read, from Jersey, she was not taken before a magistrate. In the case of Margaret Callaghan and five children, she was not taken before a magistrate.

1826. Sir *G. Grey.*] Where was she removed from?—Margaret Callaghan and five children were admitted on the 19th October 1853. Stated "that she lived for the last 32 years in London, nine of which she resided in the same house; that her husband went to America; that she made application for relief, and received it for 10 weeks."

1827. What workhouse?—"That she was then ordered to attend the workhouse, St. Margaret's, Westminster, with her family; she did so, and was detained until the following day, when she, together with her family, were conducted by the police and placed by them on board of a steamer and sent to Dublin, without the order of a magistrate, and without her consent."

1828. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Did she state the house in which she had resided?—No; but there is given the date of her admission into the North Dublin Union; it would be very simple to trace it in that union. I take it that the statements of the majority of them show the removals to have been illegal, if I read the English Poor Law Act rightly as to five years' residence.

1829. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Does she state the date of the death of her husband?—Her husband went to America from her. The date of her admission into the North Dublin Union is stated, and of course she was transmitted a few days before.

1830. Her husband having gone to America?—Yes. Here is another case.

1831. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is that a case also of removal without a magistrate's order?—It does not state, but it gives her parish.

1832. Is it a case of an illegal removal, assuming the facts to be correct?—It is; she lived for 20 years in the same parish.

1833. What parish?—St. Giles's. "Margaret Smith, 40 years of age, and three children, admitted April 1853; states, that her husband and three children are now living in the parish of St. Giles, London; that she took ill previous to childbirth, and was compelled to go into the workhouse there; when well she was refused permission to return to her home and family, and was sent to Dublin, with three of her children, contrary to her wishes; also states that she was living for 20 years in the parish of St. Giles, and is a native of Sligo."

1834. Then were those three children taken with her into the workhouse?—I presume so.

1835. Mr. *C. Bruce.*] Was that done without the order of a magistrate?—It does not state. Here is another case of an English woman, "Mary Spencer, 32 years of age, and one child; states that she is a native of Manchester, that her husband died in Preston; that she was four months in the Preston workhouse, after her husband's death; that she was confined of her child there; that she was three years in the same parish." Here is a case which can be easily traced; "Anna Mortimer, 57 years of age, admitted on the 5th of April 1854; stated that she resided in St. Martin's-in the-Fields, London, for upwards of five years; that she became destitute through the neglect of her husband, and made application for relief at the workhouse; was admitted, and on the following morning was brought before the Board, and forthwith sent to Dublin, although she declared that her husband resided at No. 9, Cochrane-terrace, St. John's Wood:" Here is another case of a woman being sent over, her husband being left behind. "Bridget Farrell, 30 years of age, and two children, admitted 6th of May 1854, stated, that she lived in Liverpool for 12 years; that one of her children took sick, that she made application for medical relief; that herself and two children were taken into the workhouse, and that on the following morning they were sent to Dublin, against her will, leaving her husband and two more children at their residence in Liverpool." A great number of them correspond in the same statement. "William Holland, 87 years of age, admitted 22d of May 1854, stated, that he resided in England for 36 years; that on making application for relief he was sent over to Dublin by the authorities; born in Belfast."

1836. Sir *G. Grey.*] From what parish was he sent?—It does not state.

1837. *Chairman.*] Will you be prepared to hand in to the Committee a statement of the particular cases, with details, in order that they may be looked into?—Yes; I will endeavour to do so.

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1838. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Will you state to the Committee what your view is with regard to the principle on which relief is administered in Ireland?—I approve of the principle on which relief is administered in Ireland.

1839. What is the principle?—The principle is, that the right of relief arises where destitution occurs.

1840. Do you consider, or is it considered in Ireland, that that principle is violated in the case of parties sent over from England to Ireland?—No question about it; destitution occurs here in London, and the party is sent over to Ireland to be relieved.

1841. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you, in fact, concur with Mr. Lindsay in the opinion which he has expressed, that it would be desirable to abolish the law of removal altogether?—Yes; that it would be most advisable to abolish the removal altogether.

1842. You, in fact, concur generally in the opinion which Mr. Lindsay expressed upon that point?—I do.

1843. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Do you know of any cases in which parties have suffered from illness in consequence of exposure to the weather?—Yes; illness or death.

1844. Will you furnish the Committee with the particulars of those cases?—I will.

Jovis, 25° die Maii, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Colonel Mure.
Sir George Grey.	Sir John Young.
Sir John Trollope.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Maguire.
Colonel Blair.	

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Ralph Cusack, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

R. Cusack, Esq.

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1845. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] YOU mentioned some cases of persons who had been forcibly removed to Dublin from London, and whose alleged residence in London being stated by them, an opportunity was thus afforded of testing the truth of their statements; have you, since your examination on the last day, taken any means of ascertaining whether the statements made by those paupers were true?—Yes; in two out of three cases which I mentioned.

1846. Will you state what has occurred since?—One was the case of a man at Woolwich, a convict-keeper, I did not inquire into that; he had deserted his wife, and she applied for relief.

1847. Belinda Prosser was one case?—Belinda Prosser and three children, the widow of a policeman.

1848. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is that the case mentioned in answer to Question 1802?—Yes; the woman had stated that she resided at 23, King-street, Lambeth-walk. I went to that house, and saw the man who resides there now; and he told me that Prosser had resided there for about 10 years, and that he died about a year and a half since. In addition to that, I endeavoured to have an interview with the superintendent of the police; I could not see him, but I saw a man of the L. Division, No. 161, who turned out to be a companion of Prosser's, and he told me that he was one of the persons that had carried him to his grave; that he died about a year and a half since; that he was not quite sure what countryman he was; that he thought he was an Irishman, but that his wife was certainly an English woman.

1849. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] She was admitted on the 6th of May 1853?—Yes, and he died, as she alleged, on the 7th of October 1852.

1850. *Chairman.*] You did not learn whether she had continued to live in the same parish down to the time of her admission into the workhouse, did you?—No, I could not find that out. The illegality which I make out there is, that

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under the English Removal Act no widow should be removed until twelve months after her husband's death. The husband died in October 1852, and she was removed in the early part of May 1853. The other case was that of a woman named Mortimer.

1851. That is the case mentioned in answer to Question 1835, is it not?—Yes: she was sent by the guardians, although she declared that her husband resided at No. 9, Cochrane-terrace, St. John's-wood. I went to that house; the man referred me to the landlady (who had been then in possession of it,) two doors off, at No. 7; and she told me that a very short time since a man of that name had resided in the back room of No. 9, but that he had left.

1852. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she state whether the man's wife resided with him?—She could not give me the definite particulars, but she said that a person of that name had certainly resided there a short time since.

1853. Did you make any inquiries which would enable you to state why, if she resided with her husband in St. John's-wood, which is in Paddington parish, I believe, she should have applied for relief in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London, and have been relieved there?—No; if that case had come under our notice in Ireland we should at once have directed our relieving officer to have inquired into it, and taken proceedings against him, and made him amenable to the law.

1854. Then what you have ascertained is, that a man of that name did reside at No. 9, Cochrane-terrace, St. John's-wood?—Yes.

1855. But you have not been able to ascertain whether he was the husband of the woman who appears to have been relieved in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and to have been sent from that parish to Ireland?—No, it bears out the credibility of her story to a certain extent. There have been a number of cases in which men have deserted their wives. Out of the 119 which I have here, we have 47 now in the North Dublin Union who have been deserted by their natural protectors; children by their fathers, or wives by their husbands.

1856. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Can you state to the Committee any other instances in which persons have been removed, as you think, illegally, if their statements were true, or in which they have been removed under circumstances which you consider to be of great hardship?—There are a number of cases in which persons allege that they have resided in the same house for over five years; that of course is illegal if the statement is true.

1857. *Chairman.*] And for the last five years?—Yes.

1858. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Take the cases of desertion first?—There was the case of "Julia Murphy and two children, admitted on the 26th of June 1853, sent from England by the authorities; she was deserted by her husband, James Murphy, and consequently became destitute."

1859. Sir *G. Grey.*] She was sent by the authorities of what parish?—I have it here; the "Brownley Union."

1860. Do you know what part of the country it is in?—Yes, near Liverpool, it is probably "Bromley;" she resided for the last 29 years in Liverpool, 12 years of which she resided in the same house.

1861. You know that her husband was an Irishman from the name?—He must have been. There is another, "Margaret Calaghan and five children, admitted 19th October 1853, lived for 32 years in London, 9 years of which she resided at 10, Hollens-street," I think it is, Westminster.

1862. *Chairman.*] Which nine years; it does not appear, perhaps, whether the last nine years?—No, it does not.

1863. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was she a widow?—Her husband had deserted her, and gone to America; she was sent over by St. Margaret's, Westminster.

1864. Does it appear how long she had been relieved in St. Margaret's before she was sent over?—She went to the workhouse; she was detained until the following morning, and she, together with her family, were conducted by the police, and placed on board a steamer, and sent to Dublin without the order of a magistrate, and without her own consent. The case which I am about to give is one which can be very accurately tested as to the credibility of it; if I had had the information before I should have inquired: "Margaret Smith, 40 years of age, and three children, admitted in April 1853, states, that her husband and three children are now living at 2, Wyld's-court, Drury-lane, in the parish of St. Giles, London; that she took ill previous to childbirth, and was compelled to go into the workhouse there; when well she was refused permission to return to her home and family, and was sent to Dublin with three of her children, contrary to her wishes;

also states that she was living for 20 years in the parish of St. Giles, and is a native of Sligo." The credibility of that of course can be ascertained.

1865. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] You had not her residence at the time of your examination?—No, I only got it this morning.

1866. *Chairman.*] Is there anything stated about a magistrate's order?—No, it does not mention it. Another case is, "Ann Egan, 25 years of age, and two children, admitted December 1853, states that she is a native of Galway; that her husband is in England; that she resided in the same parish there for seven years, at 9, Silkman's-yard, Knutsford, Cheshire; that three months previous to being sent to Dublin she removed to another parish;" she was sent away from her husband.

1867. Sir *G. Grey.*] Where was the husband when she was removed?—It does not state.

1868. *Chairman.*] Is there anything about a magistrate's order there?—No.

1869. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is there anything about her application for relief at Knutsford?—No; of course she applied for relief. I mentioned on the last day the case of Catherine Rutherford, whose husband was butler to Sir William Burdett; I have since got her residence, No. 6, Mill-street, Hull.

1870. That was the case mentioned in answer to Question 1812?—Yes. "Andrew Quin, widower, blind, resided in Staley Bridge for 35 years." His address was Bridge-street, Staley Bridge; "was 20 years in one parish."

1871. What age was he?—Fifty-five. "Was put on the deck of a steamer at night, up to his ancles in water." He complained bitterly to me. I know the man, and remember the case.

1872. Had those 20 years in one parish been the last years of his residence in England, so as to make the removal illegal under the Irremovability Act?—I cannot positively state that.

1873. You state that as a case of hardship, owing to the length of time for which he had resided in England?—I do. "Bridget Meehan, 28 years of age, with four children, was sent from Bromley Union; her husband (Patrick) deserted her in England; resided 14 months in Bromley; three weeks in the workhouse there; native of Tipperary; her residence was 5, Wood-street, Liverpool."

1874. She was deserted by her husband in England, became chargeable to the parish, and was removed under the powers which the law gives of removing Irish paupers to Ireland?—Probably that case was correct if they could not make her husband amenable; but in Ireland a number of women come into the house to us, in order to have their husbands made amenable to the law who refuse to support them.

1875. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—"Mary Robinson, 62 years of age, and five children; resided for 22 years in Stockport; her husband is a native of Stockport; he went to Ireland to look for work; during his absence her children took fever, and were admitted into the infirmary; when well, she and they were brought before the Board, and ordered to be sent over to Dublin."

1876. Sir *G. Grey.*] The husband having preceded her to Ireland?—Her husband went to Ireland to look for work.

1877. Did she say how long her husband had been absent from her?—No.

1878. Do you know what the husband had been in Stockport?—It does not state.

1879. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—"William Jordan, 76 years of age, admitted 16th February 1854; had been 56 years in England; resided for the last 20 years in Stockport without leaving the union; he there became destitute, and made application at the workhouse for relief; he was admitted, and then interrogated as to his birthplace, and forthwith conveyed on board a steamer and sent to Dublin." His residence was No. 8, Eden-lane, Stockport.

1880. Does it appear whether or not there was a magistrate's order?—No.

1881. Sir *G. Grey.*] Does it state whether he resided for the last 20 years in one parish in that union?—No; it states only that he resided in the same union without leaving the union. "Bridget Farrell, 30 years of age, and two children; admitted the 6th of May 1854; resided in Liverpool for 12 years; one of her children took sick; she made application for medical relief; herself and two children were taken into the workhouse, and on the following morning they were sent to Dublin against her will, leaving her husband and two more children at their residence in Liverpool." "John Griffin, 38 years of age; married; his wife still in Coventry; stated that he resided for seven years at Priest-hill, Oldham; on applying for relief, he was sent over to Dublin by the authorities."

1882. Do you know how it was that he applied at Oldham, his wife residing at Coventry?—No.

1883. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—"Patrick Magrath, 54, states that he lived in Bradford three years; wife and child still there; applied for relief, and was sent over by the authorities to Dublin; was born in Limerick."

1884. Do you know whether that is Bradford in Yorkshire, or which Bradford?—No, I do not. There are 119 cases altogether; and I have just made a "tot" as to the comparative length of time of each of them, in order to show the Committee that the parties do not merely go to England for a few months to look for work. Out of the 119 seven are English.

1885. Sir *G. Grey.*] What are the 119?—There are 119 who are now in the house; those are the parties that I have referred to; that is, including fathers, mothers, children and all; 35 of those 119 have resided under 50, and over 20 years; 20 have resided over 10; 22 have resided over 5; 27 under 5; and as to 8 of them, I have not been able to collect the information, and it does not state.

1886. *Chairman.*] When you say that a certain number are English, are they Englishmen, or are they English wives of Irishmen?—In the case of Prosser, the policeman's wife, she is English.

1887. Are the others Englishmen?—There is the case of an Englishman named Daniel.

1888. Have you any other case?—Yes; the case of a woman named Spencer, and one child, which I mentioned the last day.

1889. That is the English wife of an Irishman?—It does not state. Her husband is dead.

1890. Sir *G. Grey.*] Mary Spencer is the case mentioned in answer to Question 1835, I believe?—Yes. I can furnish the Committee now with a few cases, in which parties were sent over, not having been sworn or brought before a magistrate.

1891. *Chairman.*] In each of these cases the party stated to you that there had been no magistrate's order?—This is the information which I have got to-day; they stated it to the master of the workhouse.

1892. You mean that there has been in each of these cases a positive statement that there was no magistrate's order?—Yes, a positive statement, within the last two days. In the case of Michael Benson, Vail-court, Park-street, Birmingham, he was sent over, not having been sworn.

1893. Have you the date of that removal?—No.

1894. When did that case come into your house?—I should think most of them have come in within the last year.

1895. And that would be a removal by the authorities of Birmingham, I suppose?—Sent over by the authorities of Birmingham; we get a great many from Birmingham. Mr. Crawford will be able to state a case which he investigated from Birmingham. There is the case of Alice Hogan, of 2, Dublin-street, Liverpool, not sworn, but on applying for relief was sent over.

1896. Can you give the time there?—No; the master of the workhouse has not mentioned the time in any of them, although I asked for that information.

1897. But all of them you believe to have been in the last 12 months?—I think they are within the last 12 months, or year and a half.

1898. Sir *G. Grey.*] Are these people in the house now?—Yes, I could send the Committee the dates of the admission of those parties.

1899. *Chairman.*] Was that a removal by the authorities of Liverpool?—Yes. Mary Tagerty, James's-street, Dundee, not sworn, but on applying for relief was sent over; Catherine Murphy, 8, Barrack-street, Devonport, not sworn, but on applying for relief was sent over.

1900. Was that by the authorities of Devonport; does it state by what parish?—Those are the last residences, so that I presume it was so.

1901. Will you be able to furnish the Committee with a list of the dates at which these persons were admitted into your workhouse, and of the unions by which they were sent over from this country?—I shall.

1902. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Can you inform the Committee whether there has been, as you think, any abuse of the power of removal in connexion with some young men or boys who went to Preston during the period of the strike?—Yes, three cases came under my knowledge about a fortnight since; three boys who were evidently from the north of Ireland. They alleged, that during the strike an agent had come over from Preston, and had brought a number of persons, boys and girls, from Belfast, from a manufactory to Preston. When the strike

strike was over they were thrown out of employment and applied for relief, and they were transmitted to Dublin. Ten of them, it was stated, were sent over to Dublin together; three of them were admitted into our house.

1903. Although they belonged to Belfast?—Although they all belonged to Belfast.

1904. They had been in employment at Belfast when they were invited to go to Preston?—They stated that they were in a factory. They gave us a very accurate account of the factory.

1905. What age were they?—I think about 14 or 15.

1906. Have you heard whether the system of removal affords any facility for persons to get to Ireland who should not have obtained relief in England?—I understand that in the harvest time a number of the reapers who come over to England are in the habit, when they have got all the work they can in England, of appointing one banker, who pays his way over, and the others apply for relief, and are sent over to him.

1907. From any examination which you have made yourself, and from any information which has reached you, have you reason to believe that that is really the case?—No, I cannot state the fact; but it is the general impression in Ireland, particularly in Dublin, that large numbers are sent over.

1908. Sir *G. Grey.*] Then you believe that many of the people who come over under orders of removal from England to Ireland are persons not in distress, but who have imposed upon the poor-law authorities in England, and have obtained from them the means of getting their passage paid home?—I am afraid that is the case.

1909. *Chairman.*] You mentioned one case, in answer to Question 1822, of a person on whom you found a bill of exchange for 14*l.* 10*s.*?—Yes.

1910. But you did not know the value of that bill of exchange?—No. The man remained in the house about a week, having in the mean time written to Liverpool to some friends there, and they sent him money, and he got away.

1911. Sir *G. Grey.*] I presume that these people whom you have last spoken of do not apply for relief in Dublin, Cork, or Belfast; they do not become chargeable in the port where they land?—No, they pass on.

1912. You state this, not as a hardship to Ireland, but as illustrating the operation of the law as leading to imposition upon the poor-law authorities in England?—Yes.

1913. Colonel *Blair.*] You state, with respect to those persons who came over to Preston, that when they left Belfast they had employment?—So they stated.

1914. Was no stipulation made by the person who brought them over as to the length of time they were to be employed in Preston?—I suppose not; they were very young.

1915. Then they came over on the chance of getting relief in England?—I know that a great number of persons at Drogheda, which is my own neighbourhood, were engaged at higher wages.

1916. But you do not know whether any arrangement was made that they were to be kept employed a certain time in Preston?—Not that I am aware of.

1917. Sir *G. Grey.*] Have those persons from Drogheda and its neighbourhood remained in England, or have they returned to Ireland?—I have not heard of any having returned yet.

1918. *Chairman.*] The Committee understand you to say, that these statements which you have now given them were made in your own presence by these parties?—They were taken down for me by the master; I got the parties collected together and examined them, and if they did not give me the same evidence as was written down, I scratched it out.

1919. You were present when it was taken down?—Yes; I checked it myself.

1920. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] In administering the poor-laws in the North Dublin Union, in a case which the guardians conceive is one which requires investigation in Ireland, do they consides that it is their business, or the business of the inspector, Mr. Crawford, to make the inquiry?—We apply of course to the Commissioners, and in every case they have afforded us every facility; in every case when we have applied, they have directed their inspector to inquire.

1921. *Chairman.*] Have you in any case yourselves communicated with any Board of Guardians in England on the subject of any alleged illegality, or harshness?—No; I do not think we have directly, but I am aware that the Commissioners have in Ireland. Mr. Crawford, I think, will be able to give the Committee information upon that subject.

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1922. *Chairman.*] WERE you appointed an Assistant Poor-law Commissioner in the year 1847?—I was.

1923. Have you continued in that office since that time?—I have continued ever since in the Irish Office, in the administration of the poor-law.

1924. Your title now, I believe, is that of Inspector?—It is.

1925. In what district did you begin to act as Assistant Poor-law Commissioner?—I was first appointed to the Cork district; I went down to Cork in the month of March 1847.

1926. How long did you remain there?—I remained in Cork until the month of April 1848; at that time I came to Dublin, having been placed upon the Poor-law Boundary Commission, but I still remained in charge of the Cork district until October; all the papers being sent to me, and the visiting part of the business being done by temporary inspectors.

1927. And in the October of 1848, I believe, you entered upon the charge of the Dublin district?—I did, and have been in charge of the Dublin district ever since, and continue so at the present time.

1928. During the time you have been in charge of the Dublin district, has it been your duty to make inquiries into the cases of parties who have been removed from England?—Yes, I have done so in many cases; the general course has been, that when the guardians have met at their admission board with cases in which they had reason to think the removal was illegal, they have reported the circumstance to the Poor-law Commissioners; they have put it upon their minutes, and I have been then instructed by the Poor-law Commissioners to make inquiry into the cases, which I have done, by taking the affidavits of the parties.

1929. Did the paupers come to you; were they examined by you?—I went to the workhouse, and had the parties brought before me, and took their depositions.

1930. You took down their examinations yourself?—I did.

1931. Have you any of those now before you?—I can state to the Committee some of the cases; I believe the Committee, in fact, have before them all the cases into which I inquired; I believe a return has been got from the Poor-law Office; all these examinations are recorded in the Poor-law Office, and I believe they have been returned to this Committee, but I can point the attention of the Committee to several of the cases which struck me.

1932. Are they the cases which have been already brought before the Committee, or are they an addition?—I think one or two of the cases have been mentioned by Mr. Cusack, but I can perhaps give some fuller details with regard to them.

1933. Do you concur with Mr. Power that, generally speaking, the removals do not appear to have been illegal in themselves?—I do concur in that opinion; during my experience, I think I have only come across either four or five cases in which there was apparent ground to dispute the legality of the removal.

1934. Have you any minute of those cases?—Yes; I can mention some of these cases.

1935. Will you direct your attention to those; what is the first of them?—The first cases I will mention are with regard to parties who have been sent over without any order of removal having been issued.

1936. Are those cases in which you were distinctly told by the pauper that there had been no order?—In these cases I was distinctly told that there had been no order for removal, and when they were represented by the Poor-law Commissioners to the Poor-law Board in England, who corresponded with the guardians, they have been admitted by the guardians in England as having been sent over without any order.

1937. Perhaps you can refer the Committee to them?—I can refer the Committee to the cases. I find the case of Elizabeth Green, 60 years of age, removed from Greenwich 27th September 1851, within seven months of the time of her husband's death. She left Dublin when 18 years of age, and resided in Greenwich for 10 years before her removal. She stated that she was removed without warrant, which was fully admitted by the guardians in a letter to the Poor-law Board of the 23d of December 1851, No. 41,498 of the English correspondence.

1938. Sir *G. Grey.*] Were there not two grounds of illegality in that case, if the facts are true, namely, that she was removed without an order, and also being a widow

widow was removed within seven months of her husband's death?—Yes; her husband had been a pensioner in Greenwich Hospital, which is exempted from the Act as a residence, so that it did not enter into the case; but she was removed within a year of her husband's death, and removed without any order.

1939. *Chairman.*] Have you a copy of the guardians' letter?—Mr. Power has a copy of it; he has the original document sent by the Poor-law Board.

1940. Was it a simple admission that this had been done, or was any excuse given?—There was no excuse given for it further than they said that the woman herself had consented to go. The consent was denied by the party when I took her affidavit. She denied that she had consented, and that was the only excuse which was given by the Greenwich Board.

1941. Did she remain in the workhouse in Dublin?—I have no means of knowing; I lost sight of the case after making the inquiry.

1942. I suppose it would hardly be a part of your duty to make any memorandum of that?—No.

1943. Will you proceed to the next case?—There is the case of John Daley, who was removed from Bristol without any order in the month of May 1851. In that case also, communication was made to the Poor-law Board here, who communicated with the authorities in Bristol; and the corporation of the poor in Bristol not only admitted that, in this case of John Daley, he had been sent over without any warrant of removal, but it was also stated that that had been the practice in Bristol; that a practice of that sort had prevailed.

1944. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did they account at all for that practice having prevailed contrary to the law?—No, they seemed to think that it was not illegal; they seemed to think that they were quite at liberty to do so, and they said that it only put them under this disadvantage, that the parties who were sent over without an order of removal might come back without being subject to punishment, but they thought that they were up to that time entitled to send them over without having obtained a warrant of removal.

1945. *Chairman.*] Is not Bristol under a local Act?—I am not quite sure; I think the body is the corporation of the poor of Bristol.

1946. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you know whether that practice has been continued at Bristol since the illegality of it has been brought to the notice of the corporation of the poor?—I am not aware of any illegal case of the sort since; at least, none has come under my notice since that time.

1947. *Chairman.*] Have you any of the documents in the case which you are now speaking of?—The documents are in London, in Mr. Power's possession.

1948. And you have examined them yourself?—I have.

1949. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Did you find in them that the corporation of the poor of Bristol distinctly admitted the illegality?—They did not admit the illegality; they admitted the fact of having sent parties over, saying that they thought it was legal for them to do so. But the illegality of that act was then pointed out to them by the Poor-law Board; since which I do not know of any case of the kind having occurred.

1950. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—The next case which I have, of what I consider to be illegality, is William Holland, who was removed from Birmingham, 76 years of age.

1951. Sir. *G. Grey.*] That was a case, I think, mentioned by Mr. Cusack?—It was; but I do not think Mr. Cusack mentioned the point which I am going to do. The party was born in Cork, and made an affidavit to that effect before a magistrate, and the warrant for his removal to Cork was made out; however, when he was taken to Liverpool by the removing officer, the removing officer sent him over to Dublin, and not in accordance with his warrant, to Cork. The removing officer, when an explanation was called for by the Poor-law Board, as in other cases, stated that the party wished to be sent to Dublin, and not to Cork.

1952. Then the alleged illegality there would be the port to which he was removed?—The port to which he was removed not being the proper port.

1953. And, assuming that the consent was given, it would not be legal?—My construction of the English Act is, that the consent of the party should be given before the magistrate when he was making out the order of removal, and that the port to which the party consented to go should be inserted in the order of removal; but I do not apprehend that merely the removing officer has a right afterwards to send a party to a different port from that which is mentioned in the warrant.

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1954. That was alleged to be so in this case, was it?—Yes, and was admitted to be so by the authorities in Birmingham. The letter of the Poor-law Board on that subject is dated July 1851, No. 31,083.

1955. *Chairman.*] Have you any other case?—Yes; there is the case of Catherine Conolly, who was admitted into the North Dublin Workhouse in October 1851, with three illegitimate children. In her affidavit she stated that she had been 19 years resident in the parish of St. Luke's, Middlesex. This case also was sent over by the Irish Poor-law Commissioners to the English Poor-law Board, and they applied to the guardians of St. Luke's, Middlesex. The guardians, however, in their reply, stated to the Poor-law Board that they did not consider it fair that they should be called upon to give explanations in cases of removal, when such explanations might be used by the Poor-law Commissioners against them, and they refused to state whether any warrant of removal was obtained in this case at all.

1956. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was this a case in which it was alleged that the removal was without any warrant?—Yes. This woman stated in her affidavit that she had been 19 years resident, and also that she had made no affidavit on the subject. The guardians of St. Luke's were applied to, and gave a very unsatisfactory explanation. They stated that they would not give information which might be used against themselves; they merely contented themselves with denying some fact of little importance in the affidavit, not at all touching the main question as to her liability to removal.

1957. They did not admit or deny, then, her residence for 19 years in that parish?—They denied some small portion of it, because she went into particular details in the affidavit of her residence during the 19 years.

1958. *Chairman.*] I believe the whole of this correspondence was published as a Parliamentary Paper last year, upon the motion of the Honourable Member for Limerick, was it not?—I am not aware. I must state that in this case the Poor-law Board did not seem to think the reply of the guardians satisfactory, and they offered to have an appeal brought, if the Guardians of the North Dublin Union wished to take that course.

1959. Sir *G. Grey.*] The English Poor-law Board made that offer?—They made that offer to the Board of Guardians, which offer, however, the North Dublin Board did not think fit to avail themselves of.

1960. *Chairman.*] I believe they stated, did they not, that there was no information to be obtained from the guardians of St. Luke's, but that the guardians of the North Dublin Union might send over some person, or employ some agent in England, to ascertain the facts in another way?—I do not know that there was anything mentioned about sending over an agent upon the subject.

1961. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know for what reason the guardians in Ireland declined to proceed when the appeal was offered to them by the Poor-law Board in England?—I think there is a general feeling of distrust in the Irish Boards of Guardians as to the tribunal being altogether an English tribunal, before which any question of this kind can be tried.

1962. Do you know that of your own knowledge?—Yes; I know that that feeling exists, and the only time that the North Dublin Board, in which union this case occurred, went forward with an appeal, was in the case of McDonagh, which I was about to mention.

1963. *Chairman.*] Is that the case mentioned by Mr. Lindsay?—It is.

1964. A York case?—A case from York. Since that case the North Dublin Board do not seem to think it judicious to try any further case.

1965. Have you any other case?—I have the case of Catherine Atkins, who was admitted into the North Dublin Union in May 1852. She was born in Cork, but notwithstanding that, she was sent to Dublin from Wolverhampton. In this case the removing officer stated that the woman consented to go to Dublin, which the woman herself positively denied in her affidavit. The correspondence with regard to this case will be found in the English Poor-law Office, in a letter of the 26th June, 1852, No. 24,992.

1966. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was that alleged consent also given subsequently to the order being made out; which port was in fact inserted in the order, Cork or Dublin?—The warrant, I believe, was made out for Cork. It is similar, I think, in every respect to the case which I mentioned previously.

1967. *Chairman.*] Then they said that she had given a subsequent consent to be

be removed to Dublin?—They said that she had given a subsequent consent, upon which they had acted.

1968. What is the next case?—I think those are the only cases which I have to bring under the notice of the Committee, where I am almost certain of actual illegality having been committed, on account of the inquiries which were made.

1969. Sir *G. Grey.*] There were three cases mentioned just now by Mr. Cusack, of paupers named Benson, Hogan, and Murphy, now in the North Dublin Union Workhouse; according to their statements, they were all sent over without having been sworn; have you investigated any of those cases?—No; none of those cases have been brought under the notice of the Poor-law Commissioners in Ireland. I have got no instructions. I find the case of a woman called Bridget Farrell, 80 years of age, who was admitted the 25th January 1851 into the South Dublin Workhouse. She deposed that she had been resident in the parish of Clerkenwell for the last 30 years. She was a native of the county of Leitrim. In this case, I do not know the exact reason, but the Irish Poor-law Commissioners did not send over the case to the Poor-law Board here, they merely forwarded to the guardians a copy of the deposition of the party, as taken by me, and told the guardians that if they wished to appeal in the case, they ought to make a representation themselves to the English Poor-law Board, so that with regard to this case, it depends upon the woman's own statement.

1970. *Chairman.*] Do you know the result of that recommendation to the guardians?—They did not take any step in the matter.

1971. Sir *G. Grey.*] The Irish Poor-law Commissioners made that recommendation?—Yes, to the South Dublin Board. There was no communication in this case made with any English authority.

1972. *Chairman.*] Have you now finished the list of cases which you have, where you think you have ascertained a clear illegality?—Yes, those are the only cases which I can bring before the Committee which I inquired into, and in which I can say that there appeared to have been absolute illegality.

1973. How many cases altogether have you inquired into in this manner?—I cannot positively say the number, but I should think they would average about 12 a year; I suppose I have had altogether, perhaps 50 or 60 cases during the time that I have been connected with the Dublin unions.

1974. Sir *G. Grey.*] Of alleged illegality; which list of 50 or 60 cases you have been instructed to inquire into and have inquired into?—Yes; but in the great majority of these cases I found that there were grounds to suppose that the removal was legal; as on minutely examining the parties, I found that though in the first instance they had alleged that they had been resident for a long time in one place, yet they had shifted the parish, so as to become removable.

1975. Were the majority of those cases, cases in which it was alleged that they had become irremovable owing to a residence of five years in one parish?—That was the chief reason assigned in those cases.

1976. *Chairman.*] And were they cases in which they had originally made statements leading to that conclusion, and it was found afterwards on sifting them that they were not cases of that kind?—Yes; those were the statements made to the relieving officers or to the Boards of Guardians in the first instance; when I came to examine more minutely into them, and to enter into the details of the residence, I found out that they had shifted their parish.

1977. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you think that the Irish paupers fully understand the operation of that Act, and the legal rights which they acquire under it, I mean the Act conferring irremovability after five years' unbroken residence in one parish?—No; from the cases which I have inquired into, I should say they did not; I do not think they understood the drift of the questions which I put to them upon the subject.

1978. Do not you think that they consider themselves to become irremovable under that Act, in some cases at least, where they have resided five years, although not the last five years?—The parties that I have examined have seemed to have very uncertain ideas upon this subject. They generally thought that their removal was a case of great hardship inflicted upon them.

1979. They complained rather of the hardship than of the illegality?—Yes, I think it is the hardship that they generally complain of; I think in general they are quite unaware as to whether it was a legal removal or not.

1980. *Chairman.*] I believe you are desirous of bringing before the Committee

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some cases of peculiar hardship, which, nevertheless, do not involve any illegality?—Yes; a great many cases of that sort have come become me, and I think, generally speaking, that is the nature of the cases which I have inquired into; there are some cases which I think peculiarly so.

1981. Will you mention them?—There was one case especially which occurred in the Athy Union.

1982. Is that in your district?—It was in my district; it is not at the present moment; the Dublin district has undergone changes, and it is not at present included in it.

1983. Sir *G. Grey.*] This case occurred when it was within your district?—It did; it was a woman of the name of Isabella Charles, who was admitted into the workhouse in July 1850. The father of this woman was a Scotchman, who came over as a steward from Scotland; he lived with a gentleman in the capacity of steward in the Athy Union. Isabella Charles was born there in the year 1809; the steward left the service which he was in, in the following year, before this woman was a year old, and went off to other services; he was in different parts of Ireland until the year 1820, not being in the county of Kildare, however, at all, and in the year 1829, it seems that he returned to Scotland, and lived in different parts of Scotland from 1829 up to 1847. In 1847 this girl, who had been born in the Athy Union in 1809, became a lunatic. She was put into the Lunatic Asylum, and was kept there for two years, until 1849, and, as I have mentioned, in the month of July 1850 she was sent over as a lunatic to the Athy Union.

1984. *Chairman.*] From what place?—From Edinburgh.

1985. Colonel *Blair.*] Was the Lunatic Asylum mentioned?—The Lunatic Asylum, I think, was mentioned in this statement.

1986. Was it Edinburgh?—I think it was Edinburgh. The lunatic was sent back to Athy as being the place of her birth, although she had left it when she was only a year old. It was alleged in the communication from Scotland that she had never lived long enough in any one parish in Scotland to make her irremovable.

1987. Do you know what trade or occupation she had been in while she was in Scotland?—No, it was not mentioned.

1988. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Her father was a land steward?—He was.

1989. Is the correspondence on that case in the Return moved for by Sir Robert Ferguson?—I do not know whether it is in that Return or not; Mr. Power has not it in London, but it is in the office in Dublin.

1990. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—I have the case of John Burgess, who was admitted into the North Dublin Union in August 1851. He was born in Dublin in the year 1780, but left Dublin when six months old, and had never been in Dublin from that period until the time when he was sent back in 1851.

1991. Where was he sent from?—He was sent back from Glasgow last. The statement which he made was, that he had lived in Glasgow for 17 years. However, in this case a communication was made with the Supervision Board in Scotland; an inquiry was made by them, and they disputed the accuracy of his statement that he had lived in one parish for 17 years; they said that he had lived for a part of the time in what they call the Barony Parish, and another parish, the name of which I forget.

1992. Colonel *Blair.*] Gorbals?—No, I do not think it was Gorbals; but it was a separate parish.

1993. *Chairman.*] In Glasgow?—Yes. The fact of his having lived in Glasgow the 17 years was not denied, but it was denied that he had lived in one parish for the time which was necessary to prevent his removal.

1994. Mr. *Maguire.*] What time must he have been resident in Glasgow to establish a residence as a bar to removal?—Five years.

1995. Colonel *Blair.*] This is not a case of illegality?—No; I only put it forward as a case of hardship, the man having been returned after an absence of nearly 70 years, to a place which he had left as a child six months old.

1996. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was it not a case of alleged illegality?—It was.

1997. *Chairman.*] But you came to the conclusion that there was no real illegality, but that it was a case of great hardship?—That is the way in which I put it forward; it was not illegal upon the statement furnished to us by the Board of Supervision in Scotland, which we in Ireland had no other opportunity of disputing, other than just what was stated by the individual himself.

1998. Was

1998. Was it sent to you by the Board of Supervision as the result of their inquiries upon the subject?—It was.

1999. Mr. *Maguire.*] But you had no means of testing the truth of the assertion of that Board?—No.

2000. Their assertion was balanced against the statement of the pauper?—Against the statement of the pauper, upon oath.

2001. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are you able to state whether the Board of Supervision in Scotland instituted an inquiry upon sworn evidence, or whether they merely had the statement of the local authorities at Glasgow?—It was the statement of the local authorities, a copy of which was sent over by them.

2002. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was the pauper's statement made upon oath?—It was a deposition taken by myself.

2003. Which parish in Glasgow did he say that he resided in for 17 years?—I have not the name of the parish down; I have omitted to take it.

2004. But, in point of fact, did he state that he had resided for 17 years in one parish?—He did.

2005. Not merely in Glasgow, but in one parish in Glasgow?—In one parish in Glasgow.

2006. *Chairman.*] Did these statements, which were received from the Board of Supervision, purport to have been taken on oath?—I think not.

2007. You will not be sure about it, perhaps?—I am sure that it did not purport to have been taken upon oath.

2008. Mr. *Maguire.*] The only test which you had was the mere assertion of the Board?—The statement.

2009. *Chairman.*] Not exactly the statement of that Board, but they transmitted to you certain statements which they had received?—Yes.

2010. Colonel *Blair.*] Did you receive those statements from the Central Board in Edinburgh, or did they come from Glasgow?—It was from the Supervision Board that the letter came; it was dated from Edinburgh, and they had communicated with the local authorities in Glasgow.

2011. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did they transmit to you the statement made by the local authorities in Glasgow?—They did.

2012. *Chairman.*] Is there any other case which you wish to state to the Committee?—I have the case of Catherine Lewis, who was admitted into the North Dublin Union in April 1852. She was removed from the Christchurch workhouse in London, after a residence of 42 years in England. She sought relief in consequence of her having her thigh broken, having met with an accident. I can only put this down as a case of hardship, because on inquiry, there being reference made to the Poor-law Board, it appeared that she had been for some time during the last five years resident out of the parish.

2013. The residence had been broken?—The residence had been broken, but still it was an absence of 42 years from Ireland.

2014. Mr. *Maguire.*] What was she?—She was a servant; she had lived in service.

2015. Did she state whether she had ever applied for relief before that?—She never applied for relief until her thigh was broken.

2016. *Chairman.*] Have you any other case?—I have another case, the case of Stephen Costelloe, who was admitted on the 10th February 1854; a recent case. He left Ireland so long ago as the year 1812, and resided nearly all the time since that in St. Sepulchre's parish, in London. He was disabled by being run over by a cab, in consequence of which he sustained severe injuries, and was obliged to receive relief. In this case also there was a correspondence with the English Poor-law Board, and the authorities of St. Sepulchre's were applied to, and from their statement it appeared that he was, for some short period, out of St. Sepulchre's parish. He was, I think, in the West London Union for a short period of time.

2017. Residing out of the parish?—Residing out of the parish, which made the case not an illegal removal; but the case is certainly one of considerable hardship, after being upwards of 40 years in England, spending nearly all his life out of the country.

2018. Mr. *Maguire.*] What was he; was he an artisan?—No; he had been a labourer, I think, employed about the streets. The authorities of St. Sepulchre's said that latterly he had been begging very much about the streets, and that they thought him a very fit case for removal over to Ireland.

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2019. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed with your next case?—There was a case which occurred very recently, shortly before I came over from Ireland, which I also inquired into; it was the case of a man called William Jordan, who was admitted in February last into the North Dublin Workhouse, removed from the Stockport Union.

2020. That was a case mentioned, I think, by Mr. Cusack to-day?—I dare say he has mentioned the subject. This case was also mentioned by the Irish Poor-law Commissioners to the English Poor-law Board; and, so far as I am aware, the reply of the English Poor-law Board has not yet been received; but it struck me as being a case of very considerable hardship.

2021. Is that case still under investigation?—It is still under investigation. There was illegality according to what appears to be the statement, but I was not able to take the deposition of the party in this case; he was a very old man, 80 years of age, who had left Ireland, as he said, in the year 1798, and had been living in Stockport nearly ever since that period; he had 16 children born in Stockport, six of whom were still alive, and it appeared that there was some dispute among those children as to supporting him; the consequence of which was, that he was obliged to go to the workhouse to ask for relief; and he was, immediately after going to the workhouse, sent over to Ireland.

2022. You say that the correspondence about that is still going on?—I think the correspondence is still going on. Jordan stated that he was born in the county of Down, and even if he was removable at all, he should have been removed to Belfast, and not to Dublin.

2023. Are you desirous of pointing out to the Committee any effect which the present law has with regard to the Dublin unions particularly?—I think it is upon the Dublin unions that the law, as it at present exists, bears heavily; I found scarcely any case in the rural unions of any party being a burthen upon the rates who had been removed from England; any cases that there were I found merely exceptional, something like that which I have mentioned in the Athy Union; and there have been also two or three cases in the Celbridge Union, which is a union lying immediately west of Dublin, and to which a few parties have found admission, travelling westward, to try to get to the place of their birth; with that exception I scarcely found any party removed from England the inmate of any workhouse in the rural districts.

2024. Do you agree in the opinion that, of the two unions, the North Dublin Union has suffered most?—The North Dublin Union has suffered especially, which principally arises from the Irish packets landing the passengers on the north side of the city.

2025. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is there no provision made for sending them on beyond Dublin to the union in which they are alleged to have been born?—No provision is made. They seem to have been landed with only 1*s.* or 6*d.* in their pocket which generally is spent in paying for the night's lodging. They generally lodge for one night in some house, and then apply the next day to the workhouse.

2026. *Chairman.*] Does a conductor generally bring them to Dublin?—I do not think the conductor generally brings them to Dublin. In the cases that I have inquired into he merely puts them on board the packet at Liverpool, and and takes no further charge of them.

2027. Have you any suggestions with regard to the alteration of the law which you wish to lay before the Committee?—My opinion certainly is, that if the law of settlement is altered in England there will be a very strong feeling in Ireland if the law is left in its present condition, allowing parties to be sent back to Ireland when the same power is not given to send back parties to their own parishes in England. But apart from that, I think that even if no change is made in the English law, parties should be sent back to their place of birth, and not to the seaport nearest it, because I think it presses most unfairly upon the Dublin unions, who have no power whatever of removing these parties to their place of birth.

2028. What alteration would you suggest in the law, with the view of effecting that; I dare say you have considered the kind of machinery which it is desirable to introduce?—I think that a party might be sent over in charge of any cases which were removed, and that this party might remain in charge of them until he arrived at the union in which the pauper had stated that he had been born I think some provision of this kind would be found to carry out the provisions of

the law much more effectually than at present, because I am perfectly satisfied that many parties who are removed from England find means of returning from Dublin, when they are left at the seaport; and if the parties were sent inland to their own union, a great impediment to their return to England would be put in their way. In some of the correspondence that has taken place in one of the cases which I have mentioned with Birmingham, it is stated by the clerk of the union, "I generally observe that Irish paupers about to be passed home prefer, I know not why, being sent to Dublin, irrespective of the part from which they may have come." Now, the clerk at Birmingham does not seem to have been aware of the reason, but I am perfectly sure that the reason was, that the parties thought that they could much more easily return from Dublin back to England than they could if they were sent inland to their own birthplace. Therefore I think that at any rate that part of the law should be changed which gives a union in England power to send a pauper, if the pauper wishes it, to some other place than the place of his birth. I think that that provision decidedly throws a heavy burthen upon the Dublin unions, which is quite unjust.

2029. You think that the pauper should not have that opportunity?—I think he should not, because I think it is very unjust to the Dublin unions; these parties who are removed, when they come to Dublin, have no other alternative except to become inmates of the workhouse.

2030. You have spoken of their getting back from Dublin; so far as you know, is there any association, or any combination in Dublin for the purpose of sending these people back?—I do not know of any combination; such a thing has never come to my knowledge; there have been one or two cases in which I have seen, I think, the guardians subscribing among themselves in order to give some money to enable a party to return.

2031. To send him back immediately?—I think some subscription has been made up in some cases of peculiar hardship; I have seen the guardians putting their hands into their pockets, and making some small collection for a party, but that has been very rare.

2032. For sending him off immediately back again?—Yes; they did not admit the party into the workhouse, but just gave some money into his hand.

2033. And they did that upon his statement, not upon any communication with England?—Yes.

2034. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] From the circumstances, do you conceive it at all probable that the object of making this subscription was to save the union the cost of maintaining this person, or merely from humanity, under the circumstances of the case?—I think it was humanity which was the motive. There was one case in the South Dublin Union the other day, which I may mention to this Committee; that was the case of a pauper, with respect to whom they applied to the Poor-law Commissioners to have his case investigated; when I went to the workhouse to investigate his case, I found that he had left the workhouse, having been put out on out-door relief; that he had got a fortnight's out-door relief in hand, and it was believed, indeed it was quite certain, that on receiving it he had gone off to the quay, and gone on board a packet bound to Liverpool. That case the Poor-law Commissioners, on my report, have sent to the auditor, and the auditor has not yet passed the accounts, and I do not know what his decision may be upon the subject.

2035. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Was that person entered upon the workhouse books as an able-bodied man?—No, I believe not; I have not seen the man; I believe he comes under that class to whom the guardians, under the first section of the Poor-law Extension Act, have a full right to give out-door relief at their discretion; and if such is the case, I think the auditor would have no power to object to it; but the case may be a very important one, because I conceive that the great mass of the removals from England are of parties who do come under the first section of the Poor-law Extension Act, and if the guardians can put them on out-door relief, these parties may use that out-door relief in going back to England.

2036. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is the out-door relief given in money or in food?—It may be given in either, at the discretion of the guardians.

2037. Colonel *Blair.*] Did you ever hear instances of paupers on their arriving in Dublin returning two or three days afterwards at their own expense to the place from which they had been sent?—I do not know at their own expense.

2038. Being sent from England or Scotland, and paying their passage back again at their own expense as soon as they could get the money?—I do not know

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know of any such cases. The only cases that I know of where any complaint was made was that of a woman of the name of Ellen Naughten and five children sent from Prescot in 1849. They got back to Prescot, and the woman there stated that she had been sent back by some persons connected with one of the Dublin unions. An inquiry was made in Dublin, but we could not find that either of the Dublin unions were parties at all to her transmission back.

2039. I do not allude to a case of that sort, but to paupers being sent over, say from Scotland, and on arriving in Dublin having money to pay their expenses back again to the place from which they came, and returning to that place and remaining there, supporting themselves by their own industry, having formerly been in receipt of relief?—No such case has come under my knowledge whatever.

2040. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed with any other suggestions which you have to offer for the amendment of the law?—I do not know that I have any other suggestion to offer on that point except that provision which I speak of, and I think also that there is hardship with regard to that enactment which requires a five years' uninterrupted residence. I find many of the cases where I consider that there is hardship arising from that cause, and I think it might be worthy of consideration whether some modification might not be made with regard to that point.

2041. Some abridgment of the period, do you mean?—Either some abridgment of the period, or perhaps I would go even so far as to say that you should give a party a settlement by five years' residence, so that if the party left that parish he might rather be thrown back upon that parish where he had been five years than be sent back to the place of his birth.

2042. Probably you would recommend some extension of the area?—Yes. I never found a case yet, it never came within my experience, where an Irish party had gained a settlement in England by inhabiting a house and paying 10 *l.* rent. The Irish seem to be all of that class which live in an apartment, merely in a room, and do not pay taxes for the house which they occupy, so that they never in fact gain a settlement.

2043. Sir. *G. Grey.*] In some of those cases which you have mentioned in which paupers have been removed after a great many years' residence in England, has it ever been alleged that they have gained a settlement in England by hiring and service, that mode of gaining a settlement having been in force long after they allege themselves to have resided in England?—I have had very few cases come under my notice where parties lived in service; most of these cases which have come under my observation are cases of mere labourers, or parties who have been working in mills and factories.

2044. Not agricultural labourers?—Not agricultural labourers; there have been very few of them indeed.

2045. *Chairman.*] The law requires, in order to gain a settlement by renting a tenement, that it must be a separate or distinct tenement or building, and you think that the Irish are not likely by that means to obtain a settlement?—Just so.

2046. Is there any other suggestion which you wish to offer to the Committee?—No, I think not.

2047. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to your suggestion as to the advisability of securing the removal of Irish paupers to the place of birth, would you allow the Irish union to which a pauper should be so removed afterwards to dispute the removal on the ground that that person had not been really born in that union?—I do not think I would bring in any other Irish union except the one to which the party should be sent.

2048. The evidence which would originally create the removal would be the simple statement of the party?—I think it might be the same as it is at present; I do not see that there might be any difference in the statement of the party from what there is at present.

2049. Then you would make that simple statement final and binding on the Irish rural union to which the pauper should be removed?—Yes; I think it has as much right to be binding upon that union, as to enable the party to be sent to Ireland at all; if it entitles the party to be sent to Ireland at all, I think the party might just as well be sent to the place where he states he was born.

2050. Do you think the effect of that would be to create in a large number of unions in Ireland a dissatisfaction with such a state of the law?—No doubt of it; I am

I am sure it would be calculated to do so; all the unions which I know of have a very strong feeling against these removal cases, and of course it would extend the number of unions which would suffer from it.

2051. You have had the immediate supervision of a large district, of which the greater part consisted of rural unions?—Yes.

2052. Were some of them distressed unions during the period of the famine?—During the period of the famine some were in the very greatest distress. I was in Skibbereen and Bantry in 1847, at the period when the distress was the very greatest.

2053. And in your present district were there some unions which, although not so distressed as those in the county of Cork, were yet very heavily burdened by pauperism?—Yes, I have had several.

2054. Have you found that the state of the law in Ireland, which makes persons relievable where destitution arises, and at the same time gives no means of removing to the place of birth persons who become destitute in another union, has led to any very serious influx of pauperism into the towns?—I think there has been a general influx of pauperism into the towns, and the more so the larger the town is. It certainly is rather remarkable that the Dublin unions have not participated in the benefit which has been found in other unions. The numbers chargeable to both the Dublin unions are increasing year after year.

2055. Has any evil of that kind become at all so serious in its nature as to make you think it desirable to alter the state of the law in Ireland which entitles people to relief where they become destitute?—No, I cannot say yet that it has.

2056. Do you think that it would be at all expedient to introduce a system of removal from one union to another in Ireland?—My opinion is decidedly against it, if it can be possibly avoided.

2057. And is it your opinion that it can be avoided?—I think that the necessity is not yet in existence for it.

2058. In point of fact, has any other union than Dublin in your district complained of any serious influx of pauperism?—I find, in fact, every Board of Guardians in my district making complaint of some parties that do not properly belong to them coming in to them, and each union seems to think itself especially the subject of grievance in this respect; but, in my opinion, the only unions that have suffered from it are the Dublin unions.

2059. Sir *G. Grey.*] And has, in fact, this increase of paupers in the Dublin unions been met by a corresponding decrease in the country unions?—Yes; and much more than a corresponding decrease in the rural unions.

2060. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Can you furnish the Committee with a statement of the number of paupers relieved in the Dublin unions during the last five years?—I can easily obtain it, if the Committee have not got the return.

2061. In point of fact, have you been able to ascertain whether many paupers removed from England return again to England from Dublin, or from other places in your district?—I know that they must do so, knowing the number of parties who have been sent over from England and admitted into the workhouse, and comparing it with the small number that remain in the workhouse.

2062. You have no doubt that many do return to England?—I know the other parties must return to England, because they do not go into the rural unions.

2063. Therefore you do not look upon the present state of the law as a very effectual protection, if such a protection be needed, by England against the burden of Irish paupers?—I do not, because so many go back.

2064. Have you had any opportunity of ascertaining whether amongst those persons who have been removed from Liverpool, particularly to Dublin, there are some who have applied for relief in Liverpool with the object of being removed to Ireland, who have used the law as a convenience?—No such case has come under my knowledge; I cannot speak to that point.

2065. The cases which are brought officially before you are cases of alleged illegal removal of persons who are admitted to the workhouse?—Those are the cases which have been brought under my notice.

2066. Therefore you would not have any knowledge of any cases of persons who did not apply for relief when they came to Dublin?—No knowledge whatever; I have no knowledge, I may say, with regard to the general cases which are admitted from England; I am very seldom able to attend the Board held for the

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admission of paupers in the Dublin unions, and I am therefore only acquainted with the cases which are specially brought under my notice.

2067. Have you at any time known of the same person having been removed twice from England to Ireland?—No.

2068. Have you at any time been instructed to inquire into cases in which death or extreme suffering has been alleged to ensue from the exposure of removed persons on board ship?—No; there has been no case since I came into the Dublin district in which I have made any such inquiry.

2069. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] You state that, in your opinion, the paupers who are removed to Dublin generally find their way back to England?—Yes.

2070. Can you state what you believe to be the inducement which leads those people to go back to England?—In most of the cases I believe the parties have friends and connexions over in England, where they have been removed from, and they wish to find their way back so as to be near their friends, having no friends whatever in Ireland, from which they have been away for many years.

2071. Then do you believe that their object in going back to England is to obtain relief, or to obtain employment?—Many of the parties have stated to me that it was merely a temporary cause which occasioned their applying for relief to the workhouse, and that if they were able to go back they could support themselves very well without any further application for assistance; that has been a common statement made to me.

2072. Does your opinion coincide with that statement?—I can only take the statement of the parties; in many cases a woman has said that she has been in the workhouse during her pregnancy, or that one of her children, perhaps, was attacked with fever, or some disease, so that they had to go into the workhouse; and that they have then been sent over to Ireland.

2073. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do not you infer, from the fact which you stated just now, that no case has come under your notice of the removal of the same person a second time from England to Ireland, that parties once removed, if they find their way back to England, do not again become chargeable to the poor-rates here?—I should infer that if they did there would be more complaints made than there have been, and I have never known but two cases, I think, of complaint.

2074. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] You suggested that it would be expedient, if the law of removal is to remain, that a power should be given of sending parties to the place of their birth?—That it should be made imperative to do so.

2075. Would not that power have the effect of aggravating the hardship in many cases to the paupers, though it might lessen the burthen upon the Dublin unions?—It might in some degree, certainly, although the travelling now on the railroad is so very easy, that I do not think there would be much burthen upon a party being transferred from Dublin to the place of birth.

2076. Take the case of parties who have resided for many years in England; take the instance which you gave of a man who had resided in England since the year 1798. You suggest that he should be removed to the county Down. Is it at all likely that that man would have any reason for preferring the county Down to the city of Dublin?—No, I do not know that that man should have any reason for such preference, because I should say the circumstances of the country are so much altered that he would be equally friendless everywhere; but still I conceive, under the present law, that the burthen of supporting him should fall upon the county Down, where he had spent some part of his life, rather than upon Dublin, where he had never been in his life before.

2077. If that is to be the principle, would it not, in your opinion, be more just that the man should be supported in England, where he had spent the larger portion of his life?—I think that that would be still more just.

2078. Sir *G. Grey.*] I understood you to state that you thought some alteration in the law of settlement should be made, by which it would be more easy, by a residence of a certain number of years, for an Irishman to obtain a settlement in England?—I think so.

2079. Do you think that an alteration of that kind would for the future prevent those cases of hardship arising out of the removal of persons from England to Ireland after long residence here?—I think it would tend to mitigate it to a great degree, not altogether to remove it.

2080. Sir *J. Young.*] At present, five years' uninterrupted residence in a parish renders a pauper irremovable?—As long as he remains in that parish.

2081. Do you think that extending the area from a parish to a union would much diminish the number of removals from England to Ireland?—I should say it would have a considerable effect; that is, judging from the number of cases which have come before me in which it has operated, and in which a party has been made removable, by just changing from one adjacent parish to another.

2082. Are you aware that in one of the unions of the city of London there are 98 parishes?—I am aware that there is a very great number of parishes indeed.

2083. Supposing that the required residence was in the union and not in the parish, it would probably greatly diminish the number of removals from London?—I should think it would tend to decrease the number, undoubtedly.

2084. Would you give the opinion, that it would not be a hardship upon an English union to give an Irish pauper, who had completed five years' *bonâ fide* industrial residence in the union, a settlement in it?—I do not think it would be any injustice; I think it would be far more just to give him a settlement there than to remove him to his place of birth.

2085. Supposing such a change to be made in the law, do you think that the number of removals would be greatly reduced?—Yes; I am satisfied that the number would be considerably reduced.

2086. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is your feeling then in favour of repealing the present law of removal?—Yes; I decidedly am in favour of it.

2087. Are you strongly impressed with the fact of the value of its repeal to Ireland?—I am convinced, I may say, to that effect.

2088. Do you think that it would be unjust, as far as England is regarded, to prevent the power of removal; do you think that any serious inconvenience would arise to the English ratepayer from its repeal?—No, I do not think it would.

2089. From your knowledge of the state of the country, should you dread any influx of Irish paupers into this country in future?—No, I should not, decidedly; certainly not from the part of Ireland with which I am connected.

2090. Is not there a larger amount of employment in Ireland now, than there has been for a long time?—The employment has never been so good as it is; there are few or no able-bodied parties in the workhouses in any district.

2091. I suppose you have frequent communication with the rural guardians as to the state of the country, and the prospects?—Constantly in my own district.

2092. Is it their feeling that the country is gradually improving?—Undoubtedly.

2093. That there will be more demand for labour?—Yes.

2894. That the rate of wages will be higher?—The rate of wages is increasing, unquestionably.

2095. From your communication with them, are there not guardians of rural districts who apprehend that they will, in a short time, find a difficulty in procuring sufficient labour?—I have heard such apprehensions mentioned.

2096. You suggested that a pauper ought to be sent to the place of his birth; supposing that your suggestion is carried out, and that a pauper removed from this country is sent, instead of to Cork, where he wishes to go, to Skibbereen, the alleged place of his birth, and that being in Skibbereen he gives the guardians of that Board sufficient proof that he really is a native of Cork, what redress would you afford in that case; would you have his former statement conclusive as against the guardians of Skibbereen?—I would let the Skibbereen Board of Guardians lodge an appeal against the removal, as they might do at the present time.

2097. Would not the prosecution of that appeal by one Irish Board of Guardians against another give rise to litigation?—The Skibbereen Board of Guardians might lodge an appeal, as they can do at present, against their removal from England. It would be against the parties who had removed him from England.

2098. If paupers were removed to the place of their birth, might not their removal give rise to disputed questions as to the chargeability with the paupers?—I do not see that it could give rise to any dispute which might not exist at the present time.

2099. There is no law of settlement at the present moment?—No, not in Ireland.

2100. By sending a pauper to the place of his birth, would not it give rise to a certain extent to the question of the law of settlement?—No, I do not see how it could.

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2101. Would it not give rise to the question of birth settlement?—I may say that it is a birth settlement in Ireland, at the present time, with regard to paupers removed from England. It is to the port nearest to the place of their birth that they are directed to be sent to.

2102. At any rate, you have no fear that, if the law were repealed to-morrow, there would be any injury done to the English ratepayers?—No.

2103. You would have no fear of a pauper migration?—No.

2104. Do you know the deck-passage money between Dublin and Liverpool?—I do not know exactly what it is at present, but it has been very low. There has been opposition upon the line; there are two steamers on the line, and I think it has been as low as 1 *s.*

2105. That opposition has ceased, has it not?—No, I think it is still existing to some degree; it is perhaps not so great as it was some time ago, but there are still different companies.

2106. Is not the union of Cork a very heavily burdened union?—It was very heavy when I was in that part of the country; I am not able to speak now from my own knowledge.

2107. Have you heard that the average number of inmates at the present moment is between 4,000 and 5,000?—I do not know anything of it.

2108. What improvements would you suggest in the law of appeal, supposing the present law of removal to be continued?—I am not prepared with any suggestion upon that subject; but it is certainly one entitled to some consideration, because I think there is a distrust, among the Irish Boards of Guardians, of a tribunal which is altogether English.

2109. Is it not practically inoperative at the present moment?—It has been inoperative, so far as I am aware, there having been only one case.

2110. And that case having been unsuccessful?—And that case having been unsuccessful.

2111. You are not prepared to offer any suggestion upon that point?—I am not.

Mr. *Robert John O'Shaughnessy*, called in; and further Examined.

Mr. *R. J. O'Shaughnessy.*

2112. *Chairman.*] YOU stated when you were examined before, that if your examination were adjourned you would be prepared on a future day to give cases of separation of husband from wife and parent from child, under orders of removal?—Yes, I have since received some cases which bear upon the point, but as I was not present myself at the examination of the cases, I fear that the points of the evidence have not been taken down precisely as the Committee may have wished; however, if you will permit me, I will read them.

2113. Have you any cases with any particulars?—I have. There is the case of Catherine Donovan. She is a girl aged 16 years, a native of Cork, and she lived in London during the last nine years. She states, "that her father and mother live in Wilde-court, Wilde-street, St. Giles, London; that on Sunday the 19th February she applied to the authorities of St. Luke's parish for temporary relief; she was admitted, and detained in the workhouse for one night, and on the following morning, the 20th, she applied for her discharge, which could not be granted, but on the evening of the same day she was forcibly put into a cab and sent to a house in Wapping, where she was kept a close prisoner until she was put on board a steamer for Cork, against her will, and without the knowledge or consent of her parents." The girl states that she is 16 years of age; she looks very young indeed, and is one, I think, that would need the protection of her parents very much.

2114. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she say how she came to apply for relief?—She had been in service and was disemployed, and applied to the workhouse for relief.

2115. Was she living with her parents at the time she applied for relief?—No.

2116. Did she inform the poor-law authorities that her parents were living?—She said she did. The date of her admission into the workhouse of St. Luke's was Sunday, the 19th of February of this year.

2117. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—This is not a case of separation of members of a family.

2118. Will you confine yourself at present to those cases?—This case is one which has been now 11 years in the Cork workhouse.

2119. Is

2119. Is this another case of the same class?—Of a similar class; it is the case of Jane Harvey. She has one child, and states "that she is married, and lived 15 years in London; that her husband, who is a soldier, was sent to the Cape of Good Hope with his regiment;" I did not ask her the number of the regiment, unfortunately; "and she was obliged to apply for relief to St. Margaret's parish, Westminster. She was admitted into the workhouse of that parish for a few weeks, and then herself and her child were forcibly, and against their will, conveyed in a covered van from the workhouse and put on board a steamer for Cork. On her arrival in Cork she had only three-halfpence, and she sold nearly all the clothes she had to pay for food and lodging for a few days; when her money ran out she was obliged to apply for relief at the Cork workhouse, where she and her child were admitted in 1843, and they remained there up to the present time."

2120. How is this a case of separation?—Because she has two children, at least, in employment in London. I received myself some time since a letter from the clergyman of St. Margaret's parish, Westminster, writing to me to know if a person of the name of Jane Harvey was in the workhouse; that her daughters were in situations in London, and were anxious to know if their mother was alive, and whether she was in the workhouse.

2121. Sir *G. Grey.*] Were those daughters living with her at the time she applied for relief and was removed?—No, they were not.

2122. It is a case of separation, then, from the place where some of her grown-up children are in service?—Precisely.

2123. She was not living with them at the time?—She was not.

2124. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Has she heard from her husband since?—I am not aware.

2125. Colonel *Blair.*] Were these cases taken before a magistrate?—Yes.

2126. Did not the magistrate think it necessary to ask the number of the regiment?—No, he did not.

2127. What proof is there that this woman was the wife?—Nothing, except her own statement.

2128. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed with the next case?—In the case of Margaret O'Brien, her husband and herself were removed, but her husband left her in Ireland to get back to London. I believe I adduced a case like that on the previous occasion.

2129. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is that a case of separation here of husband from wife, under an order of removal, or is it not a case of husband and wife removed legally and properly together, and the husband deserting the wife after their arrival in Ireland?—Yes. In consequence of their removal, the man conceived that he was unable to get employment.

2130. *Chairman.*] That, as you observe, is a very different class of case. Have you any other case of separation of members of the same family living together under an order of removal?—No, I do not think I have, of that nature.

2131. Have you any other case which you wish to state to the Committee?—There is a case, which was looked upon as one of considerable hardship. A man was born in London, and who served his time in London; he got ill with decline or a consumption, and he thought that change of air would serve him (so he stated to me), and he applied to the authorities at Poplar, and has been removed to Cork, and is now in the workhouse in Cork, a constant charge.

2132. Sir *G. Grey.*] I understand that he applied for the purpose of being removed, thinking that the removal would be beneficial to him?—Exactly.

2133. Do you state that as a case of hardship, complying with the man's own wishes to be returned to his native country?—It is a hardship to remove a sickly man, and leave him a constant charge upon the poor-rates there.

2134. How long has he been there?—Since August 1853.

2135. You mean, then, that that was a case of hardship upon the poor-law authorities of Cork, and not upon the man who was removed at his own desire, thinking that it would be beneficial to him?—It is a hardship upon the poor-law authorities of Cork.

2136. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is that not a solitary case?—I never heard of another of the kind.

2137. Mr. *J. Ball.*] How long had he resided here?—He was born here, and served his time in London.

2138. Sir *G. Grey.*] Then he was not an Irishman?—No.

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2139. *Chairman.*] Do you say that the authorities of Poplar removed under this Irish Removal Act an Englishman to Cork?—So he stated.

2140. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] What is his name?—John Sullivan; he said that his father was an Irishman.

2141. *Chairman.*] Will you give us all the particulars of that case?—"John Sullivan, aged 34 years, states, that he was born at No. 19, Ashton-street, Poplar, London; that in January 1853 he was admitted into the hospital of the Poplar Workhouse, and remained there until May of the same year, when he was discharged. In the month of August following, he again applied for admission into the said workhouse hospital, and he was admitted for a few days, and then sent on board a steamer for Cork by the parish authorities of Poplar. His father resides at No. 5, Wade's-place, Poplar. He served his time as a joiner to George Wormhurst, foreman to Green & Wigram, shipbuilders, Blackwall; he was sent with his own consent.

2142. Sir *G. Grey.*] Does it appear that he was sent under an order of removal at all; may not this be a case such as those of which a good many have been stated to the Committee, in which he was sent at his own request out of some private funds supplied for his passage?—He said that it was by the authorities.

2143. Does he state that he was taken before the authorities and sworn first?—He does not state that.

2144. Mr. *Maguire.*] What trade was he?—A joiner.

2145. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Did this man show his indentures?—He did.

2146. Mr. *Maguire.*] I believe you have scarcely ever heard of a case of a pauper in England applying to be sent to Cork?—No.

2147. Have you inquired into the case of Hagerty?—Yes; I was at his residence.

2148. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is that the case which you stated the last time you were here, in answer to Question 945?—Yes.

2149. Cornelius Hagerty?—Yes. The child has returned to her father; I saw her yesterday; Mr. Frost brought her over on Sunday last.

2150. That was the case of a child which had strayed; the poor-law authorities found the child in the street, relieved the child, and then, not knowing anything about the parent, sent her to Ireland; and she has been sent back upon the parent being discovered?—Yes; the parent paying the charge for her return.

2151. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was not that child born in England?—Yes, so she said.

2152. She had never been in Ireland before?—No.

2153. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Did you ascertain whether, when the child was taken before the parish authorities, she stated that her father was living in London?—She says that she stated that her father was living in London.

2154. And that, notwithstanding that, she was sent to Ireland?—Yes; but she was very young indeed.

2155. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] What age was she?—The father said she was six years of age; she appeared to be considerably less; perhaps not five.

2156. Colonel *Blair.*] You were not able, I think, to state on the last day how the parish authorities first got hold of the child?—She stated, which I further corroborated on inquiry here, that she and her brother and sister went out together; that the brother and this child strayed from the sister, and that the two afterwards separated, and this child was picked up in the street; that is the only account which I could ascertain from Hagerty's house.

2157. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was the father able to support his children?—Yes.

2158. And he paid for the passage of this child back?—Yes.

2159. And, as you stated on the last day, he was greatly afflicted at the loss of the child, and anxious to get her back?—Very much so.

2160. Have you inquired into any other cases?—On making inquiries, I found that the statement of Ann Holland, whose case I mentioned on the previous day, was quite correct; I saw her daughter, whom she stated she had left behind here, and she is a very young girl, apparently about 15 years of age; she resides at No. 4, Enoch-court, Goodman's-yard, Minories. The statement of the girl here exactly verified her mother's statement to me.

2161. Have you any other case?—There are some cases of separation of members of a family; but they apply in the first instance to Jersey. I have two or three cases; I think the Committee did not conceive that that came within their inquiry; they were removals from Jersey to Plymouth, and subsequently from Plymouth to Cork.

2162. Sir *G. Grey.*] Have you now gone through all the cases which you wished to lay before the Committee?—I have on the points which the Committee suggested; there are, of course, many cases of general hardship which I have not read to the Committee, amongst those which I collected, but none upon those points which the Committee specially directed me to ascertain as to the separation of members of families.

2163. Mr. *Maguire.*] You heard the constable, Duross, give his evidence the other day, I think?—I did.

2164. Do you think that if a poor person happened to stray in the street, and was unprotected, it would be a very great hardship towards that person to put him or her in the bridewell for the night?—No, I do not think there would be any personal hardship; of course every one would be opposed to putting a person guiltless of crime into a place of punishment for crime, but I do not think that he would suffer any personal hardship.

2165. Do you know of cases where destitute people have frequently applied to the constabulary at their different stations for protection for the night?—Yes; the stations of the constabulary are much more numerous of course, and more generally known than those of the relieving officers; and in the first instance, I take it that the poor generally apply to the constabulary, either for direction or relief.

2166. I believe there is no room in any of those stations which could be appropriated to the reception of destitute people?—No, there is not.

2167. Therefore the best thing which the constable can do at a very late period of the night, is to take that person to the bridewell?—I should say so.

2168. And if that person be lodged in a separate room, not where criminals are, and be fed and brought before the magistrates in the morning, do you think that that involves any great hardship?—No, I do not.

2169. Would it be convenient for the constable to take a destitute person, whom he found in the street at 11 or 12 o'clock at night, to the workhouse?—I think it would be very inconvenient, both to the poor person and to the authorities.

2170. From the centre of the city is not the workhouse about a mile and a half?—About a mile and a half.

2171. And the bridewell is exactly, is it not, in the centre of the city?—Quite in the centre.

2172. Scarcely distant a quarter of a mile from any of the leading streets?—From any of the leading streets it is not distant a quarter of a mile.

2173. I do not know whether you have stated to the Committee that there is no organised system in Cork for retransmitting paupers to this country?—I am certain there is not; I am quite sure that if there was any organisation, private or public, I must have had some cognisance of it.

2174. To your own knowledge, whenever a subscription is made up for the purpose of sending back an individual or a family to this country, is not that subscription entered into from motives of humanity, and not from a selfish desire to free the union from the burthen of the support of that individual or of that family?—I believe it to arise entirely from motives of humanity, and from the commiseration excited in the subscribers by the recital of the sufferings and miseries and hardships of the person for whom they subscribe; and I may also say, that the cases which have come to my knowledge are very few, and I believe the cases of such subscriptions are very rare indeed, and only very peculiar cases.

2175. Where such subscriptions are entered into and such persons are sent back, is the subscription entered into until the parties subscribing examine minutely into the circumstances of the peculiar case?—No; until they examine and sift, as far as they can, the testimony of the person, and satisfy themselves that there is no imposition in the case.

2176. Is the sifting of the testimony with this object, in order to show that the party, if sent back, might be in a position to maintain himself or herself in this country?—Exactly; that is always the object, or to unite them to members of their family who they state are in a position to support them.

2177. Are not the master and mistress of the Cork workhouse authorised to admit persons who apply for relief at any hour?—They are bound to do so; the master, or, in the master's absence, the matron.

2178. Have you ever heard of a case of refusal of relief?—Never.

2179. Is it very likely that strangers who had never been in Cork before would know of this power on the part of the master, or, in his absence, of the matron, to afford relief?—No, I do not think it likely.

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2180. In fact, I suppose they would find it rather difficult to come to the workhouse at all?—Without direction, I think they would find it difficult.

2181. You are perfectly clear upon this point, that there is nothing like a reckless re-transmission of paupers to this country?—I am quite certain there is not.

2182. And that any individuals who contribute towards sending them back inquire into the circumstances of the case, and make themselves satisfied that if those parties are sent back they will be in a position to maintain themselves here?—Yes; or that they do it to send them to members of their families who will be able to assist them.

2183. Is that, in fact, a condition of that voluntary relief?—That is a condition in every case which I have ever known.

2184. Is it the practice of the relieving officers, or any of them, to attend the steamers on their arrival?—No, it is not the practice, nor have the guardians required it. There never was any question upon it formally brought before the Board; there have been conversations upon that subject, and the guardians were under the impression that it was not a portion of their duties to send relieving officers to places of that kind. They appoint a sufficient number of officers in convenient localities where applications for relief would be received; but as a rule they object to the relieving officers attending at any place but the places appointed by the guardians for them; that is to say, at their offices; and they generally attend there on the days appointed until three o'clock each day.

2185. From what time in the morning?—From nine in the morning now, in consequence of the Medical Charities Act, until three in the day.

2186. How many relieving officers are there for the city?—There are four for the Cork division.

2187. And those are in convenient and accessible parts of the city?—Very convenient, the most convenient centres which they could get. Another reason which the guardians stated for not appointing a relieving officer to attend besides the general reason is, that the steamer comes in on Sunday, and they do not conceive it to be fair to employ their officer on that day in duties of that kind, except in the relief of sudden and urgent cases, which he is authorised to relieve immediately, by admission into the workhouse.

2188. The relieving officers are actively employed from nine to three o'clock in the entire week?—They are.

2189. And the guardians consider that the relieving officers may have Sunday as a day of rest?—Yes, excepting, of course, in such cases as the law would provide for at any time; namely, sudden and urgent cases.

2190. A pauper might at any time make application at the house of the relieving officer?—Certainly.

2191. Is the residence of the relieving officer known to the police?—Yes, the residence as well as the office is known.

2192. And the relieving officer can there give an order to any person who applies for it?—When it is a case of sudden and urgent distress, he can give admission into the workhouse under the Irish Relief Act. It is limited to those cases; the other cases are relieved by the Board of Guardians.

2193. Generally speaking, is not the relieving officer in attendance upon the magistrates' court in the morning?—He has been, but the guardians do not conceive that that is a suitable place for him.

2194. In point of fact, I believe it is generally their practice?—It is.

Frederick Solly Flood, Esq., called in; and Examined.

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2195. *Chairman.*] I BELEIVE you are a Barrister of the English Bar?—I am; I have been a member of the English bar for 26 years, and have practised almost the whole of that time, professionally to some extent, but still more from having in 1833 been appointed an Assistant Commissioner in the Irish Poor Inquiry, and charged with the legal department of the inquiry, my attention has been directed to the laws relating to the poor.

2196. You are connected, I believe, with the neighbourhood of Wexford?—Yes, I live within five miles of Wexford, where I reside occasionally during the vacations and other intervals; I am a magistrate of that county.

2197. Are you a guardian of the Wexford Union?—I am an *ex officio* guardian of the Wexford Union, and also of the Enniscorthy Union. During the periods when

when I reside in Ireland, I invariably attend the meetings of the Wexford Union.

2198. Are you there a portion of every year?—I am there from three to five months of every year.

2199. You know the subject of the inquiries of this Committee?—I am aware of it.

2200. Are there any points connected with it upon which you wish to give the Committee information?—The Committee are of course aware that Wexford is one of the ports to which, by Act of Parliament, paupers are liable to be removed from England; there have been not many, but there have been some instances of removal from Liverpool, and also from Bristol to Wexford. If the Committee will permit me at the next meeting, I will furnish them with the particulars of those cases, as I have inquired into them all with the greatest care. I have reason to believe, from the inquiries which I have made, that there were no orders by magistrates in any of the cases to which I refer; that the parties in all these cases were examined by the relieving officers, and that they were removed, believing themselves to be removed compulsorily. In one instance which I will mention to the Committee, a person who had lost both his legs was removed; he attempted to send for the police in order to prevent his being removed, but without success.

2201. From whence do you derive your information in these cases?—I derive it from all the care which I could bestow upon them in examining the parties, which I did as rigidly as I possibly could. One instance, which I will with the permission of the Committee lay before them, was from information sworn upon oath in a case in which it was thought advisable that an application should be made for a warrant to arrest the woman's husband; I will detail the particulars, if the Committee will permit me, on a future day.

2202. You have the particulars?—I have the particulars in town.

2203. Sir *G. Grey*.] Has the same course been pursued by the guardians of the Wex ord Union, which you have heard to-day if you have been in the room, is pursued in the North Dublin Union, of bringing these cases under the notice of a poor-law inspector, with a view to the investigation of them?—No; I believe, on the contrary, that that has not been the course; and if the Committee will permit me, I will state the reason why. The remedy which there now is by law in the event of an illegal removal, that is, of persons being removed who by law are settled in England, practically amounts to none at all; because, by the Act of Parliament, before any appeal can be made security must be given for costs by persons resident in England.

2204. I did not refer to cases in which an appeal was contemplated, but I referred to that class of cases which if you have been in the room to-day you probably heard from Mr. Crawford, into which he, as a Poor-law inspector, had been desired to inquire, and which formed the subject of correspondence with the Poor-law Board in England, and through them with the guardians of the removing parish, so as to ascertain whether the statements of the paupers were correct. Have you in the inquiries which you have made relied exclusively upon the statements of the paupers themselves?—I believe we have relied exclusively upon the paupers themselves. At the same time, with respect to one case which I shall have the honour of bringing before the Committee, I placed the most implicit credence in the party. I subjected the party to a most rigid cross-examination; he was also a person who had borne since being in Ireland a most irreproachable character; and I was assured by the authorities that the most perfect confidence might be laid in every word that he said. Let me add that I am also satisfied with the veracity of the statements made in the other cases.

2205. *Chairman*.] Have you communicated at all with any of the Boards of Guardians in England, under whose authority these removals have taken place?—I believe we have made no such communications. I believe that the Right honourable Baronet asked some questions of a witness who was here before, upon the subject of the power to remove lunatic paupers.

2206. Sir *G. Grey*.] You refer, perhaps, to a case at Cork, in which the witness stated that a pauper having been landed on the quay in a state of lunacy, was sent to gaol for a month. I asked if there was no lunatic asylum in Cork to which that pauper might have been taken?—I understood the question to be asked as to the law of the case. The law relating to the removal and support and apprehension of pauper lunatics in Ireland, is in a very anomalous position. The

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only case in which a dangerous lunatic can at all be taken care of in Ireland is, not as here, where he is really dangerous, but the Act of Parliament says that there must be reason to believe, from the circumstances under which he is apprehended, that he is about to commit an offence for which he may be punished by indictment. A few months ago a case of the kind was brought before me at my house in Ireland, in which a person was apprehended under these circumstances, and it shows the extremely faulty, I am afraid I must call it, state of the law. Late, one Saturday night, the sound of a woman making a violent noise was heard to proceed from the direction of the river Sow, which runs near to a police barrack in my neighbourhood. The police ran out, and they found the woman with her clothes dripping with water; apparently she had been in the river; she was extremely violent; she was obviously in a very dangerous state; they could scarcely understand a word that she said. The constables who apprehended her took care of her, dried her clothes, and on the Sunday morning she was brought before me at my house. There was no indictable offence, unless I could suppose that an attempt to commit suicide was an indictable offence; that was the only way in which I could get her taken care of. I must either have decided that the circumstances under which she was arrested showed an apparent intention that she would commit the indictable offence of attempting to commit suicide, or I must have ordered the woman to be disharged, whose life would not have been worth an hour's purchase if I had discharged her.

2207. Do you state this case with a view to show the Committee, that in the case to which reference was made at Cork, the gaol was the only place to which that pauper lunatic could be taken?—I am not quite sure that I know the particular circumstances of that case; but if a person is apprehended, the taking him to gaol is all that can be done.

2208. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] In your opinion is not the law very anomalous and objectionable by which a lunatic is to be sent to gaol rather than to a lunatic asylum?—It is exceedingly objectionable in my humble judgment. I felt exceedingly for this person. I knew her; her name was Bridget Power, she was in a respectable station in life.

2209. Then you think it would be better to simplify the law with respect to the admission of lunatics into lunatic asylums?—Certainly.

2210. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed with any suggestions which you have to make to this Committee with regard to the subject of their present inquiry?—With respect to the subject of their present inquiry, I take the liberty of suggesting that the law relating to removals in England and Ireland ought to be identical. The Committee are perhaps aware, that although it is the custom to say that there is no law of settlement in Ireland, that is quite a mistake; there is a law of settlement in Ireland, upon two Acts of Parliament, that which is called in England a law of settlement; but in Ireland it is called by a different name, only that there is no power of removal. The poor are relieved in Ireland out of a fund raised in one electoral division or another, acccording as they have or have not resided for the greater part of three years in a particular electoral division; that is to all intents and purposes a law of settlement; they are settled in, or in other words, they are relievable by that electoral division; and I think that if a similar law was established in England, so as to do away with the present large number of causes of settlement, and if there was simply made one settlement, by means of industrial residence for a limited time, and therefore easy of acquisition, and every party was to become settled in the parish or the union or district in which he had so resided, the same as it is in Ireland, the whole would be materially simplified. I confess that I am therefore not in favour of doing away with the removal, provided always that industrial residence for a limited period, the greater part of three years at the longest, conferred, not irremovability, but a settlement; for I think that removal is incidental to a law of settlement.

2211. You are now referring to the English law, are you not?—No, I am applying it to the Irish law also.

2212. Sir *G. Grey.*] Would you then, in fact, alter the law, by giving the power of removal from the parish or place in England to the place of the pauper's birth in Ireland?—To the settlement in Ireland.

2213. Would not the place of settlement in Ireland be the place where the pauper was born in Ireland?—It would, supposing he had not had an industrial residence for the greater part of three years in any one place within the United Kingdom. I propose to make that strictly the term.

2214. Then

2214. Then would you give an appeal as between one union and another in Ireland, as to the place of Irish settlement?—Certainly. I would, in point of fact, as nearly assimilate it as possible to the practice in England. I think myself that the litigation which it would occasion would be extremely trifling; probably none at all; and I think that it is a price which is worth paying, and I will state why. I have remarked during the course of my attendance as a guardian of the Wexford Union, that whenever there becomes a discussion as to whether a pauper should be relieved by one electoral division or another, there is sure to be an ample attendance of the persons interested. It is necessary that a notice should be given of a fortnight to change a pauper's chargeability from one electoral division to another, and there is the greatest care taken to sift it to the bottom, and to reject that person if he is not liable to be charged; his case is investigated. Diminish the personal interest of the guardians in good management and economy, and you will diminish their care and thin attendance, increase expense, promote jobbing, and degrade the poor, till the very word poor-law will become intolerable.

2215. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] As a Poor-law Guardian you can answer this question; is not the first matter decided by the Board of Guardians whether or not the person is destitute?—No, it is not; it is always taken as one question; they hear the whole of the case, and then they decide upon whether they will admit him.

2216. With reference to the law of settlement, as you call it in Ireland, is it the fact that a man who is destitute, no matter where he was born, or where he comes from, has a right to relief in the union where he applies?—It is a moot question at this moment whether there is a right to relief. If the Committee will turn to the terms in which the Acts of Parliament are framed, they will see that they leave it a very doubtful point indeed whether there is any such thing as a right to relief; whether in point of fact it is not perfectly discretionary. It is certainly a point which I have often heard argued at very great length at the Board of Guardians, and they are about equally divided whether there is such a right or not.

2217. Mr. *J. Ball.*] It depends upon the construction of the Poor-law Extension Act of the 10 Vict. c. 31?—Yes. The Committee will notice that even that Act of Parliament professes to limit the power of guardians to granting relief only to certain classes, a widow having two children, and various other classes; that Act of Parliament I am certain does not give it generally.

2218. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Then the guardians having decided that a pauper is to be admitted, the next question is the chargeability of that pauper?—I have always found that in point of practice the two questions are considered together. If they find that a person is not chargeable to any electoral division he is admitted at once; nobody takes care of the union.

2219. Sir. *G. Grey.*] Even if he is not destitute?—No, but it is almost taken for granted that he is; he would not apply unless he was destitute.

2220. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Chargeability depends upon residence; admission depends upon destitution?—Yes; but I have found this, that the word "destitute" receives a very different construction, according to whether the person is to be relieved by an electoral division or by the union at large. I have found in point of practice that the case of a person liable to be relieved by the whole union at large is scarcely investigated at all; only a few questions are asked, and then he is admitted. But I find this in point of practice, if it is liable to come upon a particular electoral division; and if, therefore, it is a very narrow area, the pauper is examined as to whether he has not applied to so-and-so for labour; "Do not you know that the landlord is looking out, and wants labourers? do not you know that the other person will give you employment?" and various questions of that kind are put, and his destitution is watched very rigidly; I confess I do it myself. In the electoral division in which I live there has not been for a long time, never since I became a guardian, a single able-bodied person chargeable to that division. Why? Because the landlords take them all; I employ everybody who, if unemployed, would be chargeable to my electoral division.

2221. You are favourable to the principle of a narrow area?—I am.

2222. Sir *J. Young.*] But if admitted in either case, the person must submit to be locked up in the workhouse?—Yes; and for some years that was of itself to a great extent, a test of destitution; that is varying every day; it is becoming less and less a test.

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2223. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do many people go from Wexford to England?—We have no means of knowing that any do, except for the purpose of emigration.

2224. Are there many people, in fact, that go from the port of Wexford to the ports of England as deck passengers in the steamboats?—A considerable number every Friday; I believe that they are all emigrants; I very often go on board, and I speak to them. I myself have been a good deal among them in America, and know what has led them to emigrate.

2225. Do many people come back as deck passengers from England to the port of Wexford?—Not many.

2226. Sir *J. Young.*] As to the workhouse becoming less and less a test of destitution, do you find that parties who are able to work, and get employment, prefer going to the workhouse?—No; but I have found this, that there is a great reluctance on the part of landlords or farmers to take persons who have been inmates of a workhouse; and for this reason, that they are fit for nothing. There are now several nominally able-bodied people there, who look apparently able-bodied, but they will not work the moment they get out of the workhouse.

2227. Sir *G. Grey.*] In your union?—In both the unions to which I belong there are several such persons; they will not work when they have been in the workhouse; the effect of permanent domiciliation in the workhouse is to destroy their anxiety ever to become independent.

2228. Sir *J. Young.*] Are those young people who have grown up in the workhouse?—Yes; and they do this; they are the persons who give us the greatest amount of trouble; they go in and out five, six, seven, or ten times a year; they convert the workhouse into a hotel, instead of being what it is intended for.

2229. Sir *G. Grey.*] If it is easy to obtain employment, and if their labour, in fact, is in demand, do you relieve them under those circumstances?—I individually oppose it as strongly as I can, because I have myself always put this construction upon the Act of Parliament, that a person who is sufficiently able-bodied to work is not destitute; he has the means.

2230. Do the Board of Guardians at Wexford habitually disregard that principle, and relieve those who are able to work?—I do not think that they habitually disregard it.

2231. Then why are these people retained in the workhouse in the Wexford Union who are able to work, and for whom there is abundance of work?—Because there is a great prejudice against employing them.

2232. Can they obtain work, then?—I think not, without the greatest difficulty.

2233. Although labour is very much in demand?—Although labour is very much in demand.

2234. And although they are able-bodied?—I farm about a couple of hundred acres, English, and I employ a very large number of people, probably, at least, double what I need do. I could manage to give employment to even twice as many more.

2235. But you do not think it worth your while to give employment to these able-bodied paupers who are in the workhouse in your union, and living there at the expense of the ratepayers?—I have tried to employ them, and have found that they are not fit for it; they are not worth two-pence a day.

2236. Mr. *J. Ball.*] To your knowledge, how many are there in the Wexford Union of that class?—I should think 55 at this moment.

2237. Sir. *G. Grey.*] Are they employed at all in the workhouse, or do they live there in idleness?—They are employed, as far as we can give them employment; but here again we are in a difficulty arising from the system. A motion has been made in our Board of Guardians repeatedly, that we should take a rocky field which joins us in order to employ the paupers in stone-breaking. We want more of laborious occupation, but unfortunately we have not the means of providing it for the paupers. We buy stone and make them break it; anything rather than keep them unemployed.

2238. Then there is nothing in the state of the labour market in Ireland which would deter these people coming to England, if they thought they could obtain relief in England upon easier terms than in Ireland?—They are not the class of people who go to England.

2239. They are contented, in fact, to stay in the workhouse?—They are; it is lamentable to think of the number of persons who, having been brought into the workhouse 10, 12, or 13 years ago, have grown up in it, and have not the slightest

slightest anxiety ever to go beyond it. I cannot give a better proof of that than this; I will give one remarkable instance of it; there was a boy who had been punished for running away; he was brought back again no less than ten times; this boy kicks up a row once a week, throws stones at the master's head, and we cannot get rid of him; we have no means of doing anything with him; he has been punished ten times; he has been flogged, and he has been imprisoned.

2240. Sir *J. Young.*] He would not come to England, would he, if the law of removal were abolished?—Certainly not.

2241. Sir *G. Grey.*] Are there any able-bodied paupers in the union who have been sent back from England under orders of removal?—My own opinion is, that there was never a valid order of removal yet.

2242. Have you any able-bodied paupers in the union who have come back as you have described in the former part of your evidence, who you believed had been sent back by the Boards of Guardians without orders of removal?—There are no instances of able-bodied paupers; they keep them in England as long as they are worth having, they get all the labour out of them, and then send them back to us when they are no longer able to work, having got all the benefit of them.

2243. Have any of those people who have been sent back from England to Wexford been able-bodied?—None.

2244. How many were sent back last year, do you suppose?—There are not more than one or two a year.

2245. Colonel *Mure.*] Does it occur to you that this preference of the paupers for the workhouse to labouring in a more respectable manner, is not owing to some laxity of discipline, or want of regulation in the workhouse itself?—Speaking from my own opinion, I believe that we really do not know what to do with them; we cannot put them to the treadmill, we cannot punish them.

2246. Have you ever heard the same thing said of workhouses in England, that paupers are so well pleased to be there, that they would rather be there than earn their livelihood in an industrial respectable way?—Not to the same extent.

2247. Have you ever heard it at all?—Yes, but I do not speak of my own knowledge; my own opinion is, that it is an evil nevertheless, which has crept in in England, and which is on the increase, and from the same cause, namely, that although we find in the first Report of the Poor-law Commissioners that they say that permanent domiciliation in the workhouse is a thing which they do not contemplate, it has crept in in England; persons have become attached to it, as we know people become attached to a prison.

2248. Then it is your opinion that what is called the workhouse test, which has been so much spoken of as one of the greatest advantages of the new system of Poor-law, is becoming, and will ultimately become, inoperative?—No, I do not believe it will ultimately become inoperative; I believe it is the best test which has been discovered, certainly; I simply say that it is not perfect in England, but I think it is much more perfect in England than in Ireland; I will however certainly say, that it is very inadequate in Ireland.

2249. *Chairman.*] You stated that you believed that very few of these orders were legal?—I believe that they are not orders at all.

2250. That the removals were not legal?—Yes.

2251. Do you mean to say that there is a general practice of removing without orders?—Yes.

2252. What is your ground for that?—I merely know it from the result of conversation which I have had with paupers.

2253. Sir *G. Grey.*] I understand you to say that the whole amount of removals from England to Wexford does not exceed one or two in the course of the year?—I think not.

2254. *Chairman.*] Is it from those that you have formed your judgment?—It was stated in Mr. Rushton's evidence, that when he was magistrate at Liverpool he never did sign an order at all, and would not unless a mandamus was issued, and yet persons were constantly being removed.

2255. Do the conversations to which you refer relate to the one or two cases in a year in Wexford?—I have occasionally had conversations with guardians in this country, and I have heard magistrates in our own district themselves say that the difficulties of carrying the law into execution are very great. To obtain a valid order, the paupers must either go voluntarily before a magistrate, which they never can be got to do, or must be summoned, which they never are, or taken

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compulsorily under the 10th and 11th Vict. c. 33, which I am willing to believe is a dead letter.

2256. Have you any further suggestions to make for the improvement of the law of removal of the Irish and Scotch?—No; the only alteration which I would suggest is the one that I have had the honour to call attention to, namely, that I should wish to see the law assimilated. The law of removal as it now is, is most injurious to both countries, and is also most harsh towards the Irish poor.

2257. But nothing beyond that?—Nothing beyond that; perhaps I may be permitted to state this reason; that I wish to see it as far as it can be made the interest of parties to keep down pauperism. By means of making moderately small areas of taxation, it is their interest to do so. I cannot see why in all respects the law of England and that of Ireland should not be assimilated, and I have heard unpleasant remarks made that the course of legislation is not the same in the two countries.

2258. Sir *G. Grey.*] Your mode of assimilation would be to apply the law of settlement and removal to Ireland?—Yes; but not precisely as the law of settlement and removal is in England. I think that the Irish law of settlement is better than the English one, which is a settlement by three years' residence. With all respect I cannot help thinking that it was a misfortune that when the five years' residence Act was passed, which is commonly called a settlement, it was not made a settlement; and it leads to this difficulty, children cannot be removed unless with their parents. It may be that those children actually have settlements. The parents will go back to Ireland when the children are settled in an English parish by birth; but they are removed with their parents. As soon as they become 16 they have acquired a settlement. Then they may go back again, and become a permanent charge. The one is settled in England and the other in Ireland.

2259. Mr. *J. Ball.*] You have termed the provisions of the Irish Poor Relief Act a law of settlement. In point of fact they confer no right to relief upon a pauper in Ireland, in any particular place other than the place where he becomes destitute and asks for relief?—Exactly.

2260. Therefore there is no law of settlement in the same sense in which it exists in England. There is no place in the country to which he is entitled to go and say that he is settled there, and has a right to obtain relief there rather than anywhere else?—Pardon me, that is so.

2261. The place where he happens to become destitute is the place where he is entitled to relief?—No, where he has resided the major part of the last three years.

2262. Has he, in fact, under the Irish Poor Relief Act, the power to return to the place where he has resided for the greater part of the last three years, and to demand relief there?—It is constantly done.

2263. Are you aware that it is contrary to law whenever it is done; that it is contrary to the Irish Poor Relief Act?—It is the constant practice to do it, a very recent case occurred.

2264. You are aware that the provision of the section is not that a residence of three years confers either the right of relief, or of chargeability, but merely that when a person is relieved in a union, and has resided for 30 months out of the preceding three years in some one electoral division, he becomes chargeable to that division?—Not exactly; chargeability is now governed by the more recent statute, 12 & 13 Vict. c. 104, and that may be practically called a law of settlement. It has been stated against such a change as this, that it might lead to some difference between different Boards of Guardians, that at present the greatest harmony subsists; I think otherwise, because there can be no greater amount of discord between one Board of Guardians and another than there is at present between the separate guardians of the different electoral divisions. I have always found those functions exercised and disposed of with the most perfect temper, and with the greatest ease. There certainly is in Ireland a very great, I call it prejudice, against the word "settlement," because persons who are not familiar with the alterations which have been made in the law of settlement in England have an idea that the word "settlement" necessarily involves everything which is bad, which is evil; they call to mind the frightful litigation which existed previous to the recent alteration of the law, and they attribute every evil possible to a law of settlement. The objection lies to the word settlement, nothing else.

Lunæ, 29° *die Maii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Mr. Cumming Bruce.
Sir George Grey.	Sir John Young.
Sir John Trollope.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. John Ball.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Maguire.
Colonel Mure.	

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

The Right Hon. The Earl of *Donoughmore*, Examined:

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2265. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE your Lordship is aware of the subject of the inquiry of this Committee?—I am.

2266. Are there any points connected with it upon which your Lordship could favour the Committee with information or suggestions?—I have had some experience in the management of the Poor-law in Ireland. From the summer of 1847, up to the present time, I have been a member of the Board of Guardians of the Clogheen Union. This was one of the very few unions in the south of Ireland which were not put under paid guardians, in 1847 or 1848. It was managed by the local parties, and brought through its difficulties without being placed under paid guardians. With respect to the question of poor removal, I have long been of opinion that, putting out of view entirely the question of justice to the Irish ratepayer, the law, from its machinery, works most oppressively to the poor. Particular cases have come under my notice as chairman of this Board of Guardians, and I would detail one case to the Committee, because it shows that where the law is exceeded in England, it is practically almost impossible for the Irish ratepayers to obtain justice, from the difficulty and the expense of the proceedings.

2267. Of appeal?—Of appeal. A person left the town of Clogheen more than 25 years ago, taking with him a daughter about 18 years of age; this person resided in London, and his daughter was married there. She married another Irishman who came from a very distant part of the country, some place in the north of Ireland; the name I do not at this moment recollect. She and her husband resided in London for more than 20 years, and she bore him six children; the husband was a man in some humble walk of life; I believe an artisan of some kind; he died, and for the first time the woman was obliged to apply to the parish of Lambeth for relief. She swore an affidavit before me, in which she stated that this was the only occasion upon which she or any of her family had ever applied for relief in England.

2268. Has your Lordship the date of that application?—The whole of the circumstances of this case are, I think, already in print. I may state, that when I found that relief was practically impossible after a long correspondence with the Poor-law Board in Dublin, and with the Secretary of the Poor-law Board in London (I was not in Parliament myself at the time), I sent a statement of the whole case to Mr. Francis Scully, the Member for the county of Tipperary, and requested that he would bring the matter before the House of Commons. He did move for the papers, and I believe they were printed, but from some circumstance, which I do not now recollect, I believe Mr. Scully was not able to bring the matter before the House of Commons.

2269. Do you remember in what year it was that those particulars were printed?—I do not recollect the year, but it was either 1850 or 1851. The name of the

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widow was Margaret M'Carthy. This woman was removed by the authorities of Lambeth parish to Cork, with her children; she had no connexion whatever with Cork, but having some slight recollection of the place which she had left when she was 18 years of age, she found her way, in course of time, to Clogheen, where she applied to the Board of Guardians for relief, at the same time complaining of the very great injustice with which she considered she had been treated by the Poor-law authorities in England. I took the poor woman's affidavit, and transmitted the whole case to the Poor-law authorities in Dublin. They communicated with Lord Courtenay, who was the secretary of the Poor-law Board in England, and the only relief that Lord Courtenay could give us, was offering to undertake the management of an appeal to the next Surrey sessions, I think, and by the wording of the Act of Parliament we discovered that we had exactly a week to prepare our case; that is, a week from the date when the papers were returned to us by the Poor-law Board in Dublin to the day upon which the Surrey sessions would be held, and if we did not apply at those sessions, according to the Act of Parliament, our remedy was gone. Lord Courtenay also insisted upon our lodging 100 *l.* in his hands of the rates of our union, as a guarantee for the expenses of the prosecution. The members of the Board of Guardians were at first disposed to submit even to these terms, but they took my advice, which I urged upon them strongly, that I thought if they paid their 100 *l.*, it was very unlikely that they would ever see any of it again; and that the very constitution of the tribunal to which they were to appeal would render success very doubtful, inasmuch as if any prejudice should exist, it was natural that the sympathies and prejudices of the parties at the Surrey sessions, who would have to decide the appeal, would be entirely in favour of the parish of Lambeth, and against the Irish union of Clogheen.

2270. I suppose when that sum was named as the sum for costs, Lord Courtenay stated that it was the amount which he considered as a sufficient security to the Commissioners for the payment of costs incurred in the appeal, under the Act of Parliament?—I suppose that Lord Courtenay felt it his duty to see that the Board which he represented was not damaged. I merely mention this case to show that supposing that the law had been broken in the case of Margaret M'Carthy, which I am not prepared to say—for, from the information which she gave us, it did not certainly appear clear that she had obtained a legal settlement in any parish in England—but supposing that the law had been broken, it was manifest that the machinery of the law, as it at present stands, is quite inefficient to obtain relief in such a case. It is true that this woman stated, and stated truly, that she had resided over 20 years in London, but it would have been very difficult for us to prove, on her behalf, that she had resided for five years in any one parish in London, and I considered at the time (and from subsequent more particular reading of the Act of Parliament, I think I was right) that the *onus probandi* of that fact would have lain upon us; and circumstanced as we were, utterly ignorant of the residences of this woman and her husband during so great a period in London, it would have been impossible for us to have proved our case.

2271. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Had she any friends in the parish of Clogheen, that you are aware of?—Not a single one; her family had all died off during a period of 25 years; after a terrible famine like that of 1846 and 1847, it was natural to suppose that she would not find friends.

2272. Then, in fact, her connexion with the parish was merely the accidental circumstance of her having been born there so many years before?—She was a woman, I should think, of between 45 and 50 years of age, and she had left the parish as a girl about 25 years before that; probably her age was between 18 and 20 when she left.

2273. Is she still chargeable to your union?—She is not; she has I understand returned to England, but not at the expense of the union nor at the cost of any public fund; in point of fact, we have no public fund in Ireland which is applicable to such a purpose.

2274. Do you happen to know by what means she has obtained her passage back to England?—I am not aware; I rather think, but I cannot state it as a certainty, that a charitable gentleman in the town gave her the means of returning to England.

2275. As far as you know, was it an act of charity, or for the purpose of relieving the union?—Certainly not for the purpose of relieving the union.

2276. *Chairman.*]

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2276. *Chairman.*] Will your Lordship now state any other grounds upon which, from your observation and experience, you consider the present law as to the removal of paupers from England to Ireland objectionable?—The Committee are aware that the system of chargeability under the Irish Poor-law is totally different from that in England, and I entertain a strong opinion that if a similar system, I will not say the same, but if a similar system of chargeability were adopted in England, a great many of the difficulties of this question would be got rid of. In Ireland no right of removal of any kind exists; we can neither remove an Irishman, an Englishman, nor a Scotchman; even a negro, if he becomes chargeable within the bounds of the kingdom, must be relieved: and not merely does no power of removal exist, but it has been held by some of the legal authorities that a removal from one union to another, for the purpose of casting destitution upon the rates of one union to the exoneration of another, is a misdemeanor and punishable as such.

2277. You are probably aware that the Poor-law Commissioners in Dublin took the opinion of Mr. Henn upon that subject, and that he gave them that advice?—I have never heard of a prosecution having been carried to a successful issue upon that opinion, but I believe there is no doubt that the power does exist. In order to meet the difficulty which a system of non-removal would occasion, we have a kind of modified settlement; that is, that whenever the united residences of a pauper within an electoral division (which answers to the English parish), amount to 12 months out of the preceding three years, he is considered as chargeable to that electoral division as long as he remains in the union; but if he goes to another union, the other union is still bound to relieve him, and puts him upon the general rates of the whole union. At first sight it would be thought that this system would lead gradually and inevitably to an union rating; that the number of persons relieved and chargeable to the separate electoral divisions would be very small, and that the numbers relieved not having this modified settlement, and chargeable to the unions, would be very great. But the contrary is the fact; and I can state with respect to the union in which I have principally taken an interest, that our number of what we call union paupers has been decreasing annually. Undoubtedly there are some places where the law works perhaps rather unequally. Those are the great centres of industry, large towns, into which the population flock; and where such a town is situated in a union, the number of union paupers bears a much larger proportion to the number of electoral division paupers than it does in a rural union. Now, in my union our present number relieved is about 1,000, of whom from 80 to 100 (it varies) are union paupers, but in the neighbouring union of Clonmel, where the large town of Clonmel is situated, the number of union paupers is between 600 and 700, out of a total number of inmates of from 1,600 to 1,700. The Irish Poor-law system is, in my opinion, an admirable system. It works with great ease, now that it is merely called upon to meet the ordinary pauperism of the country, and has not imposed upon it a task, which it was never calculated to fulfil, namely, the meeting a famine and a pestilence. The rates in the union with which I am connected, and I believe I can say the same with respect to a very large number of the unions in the south of Ireland, are gradually decreasing; and certainly I feel that in my district the poor-law taxation is becoming so moderate as to make me think that if a system similar to ours was adopted in England, the expenditure for poor relief would diminish in an equal proportion. The other distinguishing point of our system is a point of detail in carrying it out more than of rule, and it is this,—the almost utter absence of out-door relief. I see by the English Poor-law return that out of a total expenditure for the relief of the poor in the year ending Lady-day 1852, of 4,900,000*l.* in round numbers, the expenditure for out-door relief was 2,800,000*l.*; that is very nearly three-fifths of the whole. In the Irish return for the year ending the 29th September 1852, the total expenditure for all purposes was 883,000*l.*, of which 4,900*l.* was for out-door relief. It certainly may be supposed, from the difference of the habits and feelings of the English and the Irish population, that out-door relief may be safe and judicious in England, while it is admitted on all hands to be utterly unsafe and injudicious in Ireland; and in point of fact, experience has taught us in Ireland that there is no real test of destitution except the workhouse. To show that, I may mention, that when I first took a part in the management of the Clogheen Union in 1847, upon a population of 44,000 (at least, that was the population in 1841), we were feeding 11,000 of the people, that is, one-fourth of the population were depending upon us for daily

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food; and now upon a population of 33,000, as returned in 1851, our average numbers are between 900 and 1,000.

2278. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Does your Lordship think that if the workhouse test was rigidly applied in England, it would have the effect of preventing Irish paupers from coming to England for the purpose of obtaining relief?—Certainly, I do; and supposing even it was felt to be injudicious to adopt so rigid a system in England as regards English paupers, I am quite sure that if any Irish pauper was treated in England in the same way as he is treated at home, his applications to public charity for relief would be very few and far between.

2279. *Chairman.*] In what does your Lordship think the difference consists at present in the treatment of the Irish pauper?—There are several points of difference, as it strikes me; for instance, a man with a family in Ireland, unless he is temporarily disabled by sickness or by accident, cannot put any one of his children, for whose support he is responsible, into the workhouse without going there himself, and that rule is most rigidly carried out; I understand that it is not so rigidly carried out in England, and that if the parent can earn something, not sufficient to support the whole family, but sufficient to support himself, the Poor-law authorities in England are content to let the parent remain out and to take some of the children into the workhouse.

2280. Are you acquainted with the terms of what we call the prohibitory order in England?—Never having taken any part in the detail management of the English Poor-law system, I cannot say that I am minutely acquainted with it, but I think I understand the general bearing of the system.

2281. Sir *J. Trollope.*] Have you any difficulty in disposing of the able-bodied who have been reared in the workhouses in Ireland, the young men or young women?—We certainly have; we have made various efforts to employ them, for we have found them the most difficult class to deal with.

2282. Have you taken any means to employ them whilst in the workhouse in any industrial occupation, on land or otherwise?—We have.

2283. Will you state with what success?—At very considerable expense to the rates of the union, and not with the success which we had reason to hope for. In the union in which I live we had an agricultural school, very well managed indeed, and we carried it on for about five years, but we found that when the children grew up the farmers of the district would not employ them, and that they would rather take men who had come from a distance than employ these children; and after a good deal of consideration, finding that this institution was costing us a great deal of money, and that it really was not doing the good which we had hoped from it, we abandoned it.

2284. Have you any means of employing the able-bodied that are in your workhouses now?—Our numbers are so much decreased now, that we have no difficulty in finding plenty of employment for all the able-bodied; we make everything that we require in the house from the raw material; we never purchase anything in the shape of cloth, for instance; our purchases consist of flax, cotton, and wool.

2285. Do you make any of these fabrics into articles for sale out of the house?—Not in our union; the Poor-law Commissioners have a very great objection to it. We did propose to do it, and I know that several other unions have proposed to do it, but the Poor-law Commissioners object to it upon the ground that it interferes with the general industry of the country, and that the Board of Guardians, who have labour for nothing, have no right to compete with the public, who must pay for labour.

2286. With reference to the indisposition of persons to employ the parties who have been inmates of the workhouse, have you found it to arise from a want of habits of industry in the people who have been inmates of your workhouse?—They have stated that. In conversation with the farmers I have often heard them state that as a reason, but I do not think that that is the real reason. The fact is, that great as has been the emigration from Ireland, enormous as has been the decrease of the population, the labour market has not risen to the extent that people might have expected.

2287. Do these persons who have been so retained in workhouses for a considerable time show of themselves an indisposition to continuous labour; do they prefer, in fact, a residence in the workhouse rather than maintain themselves by their own industry?—I have observed that there is a class of them who do certainly linger in the workhouse, and that is the class of young women; the boys,

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boys, I think, are generally most anxious to get out of the workhouse as quickly as they can; the young women have been induced to remain in the workhouse, and I think the principle motive has been a feeling that exists in the country that there is a great demand for females in Australia, and that the Government are sending every now and then and emptying the workhouses of the most eligible of the young females, and sending them free to Australia; and I am quite sure that many of these girls remain in the workhouse with a sort of distant hope that some day or another they may be sent out of the country. At one time I was strongly of opinion that the system of emigration was a good system, and was likely to improve the working of the poor law, and diminish the pressure; but I have begun to doubt very much whether we were not wrong, for I have always observed that whenever one of these emigrations takes place, the next week, when the Board meets, we are flooded with young women. The desire to get out of the country is so great, that they will even remain in the workhouse, and submit to the discipline of it, which is very severe, and it is not at all a comfortable place for a young woman to be in if she can help it. They will sometimes submit to remain there for months, and perhaps even more than a year, when they have a prospect of being sent away. Therefore in the union with which I am connected I should certainly oppose, in every way I could, any further emigration paid for by public funds.

2288. Sir *G. Grey*.] Is it the practice to retain this class of persons in the workhouse, able-bodied lads or young women, when there is ample employment which they might obtain out of the workhouse; have they the option of remaining in under those circumstances?—The law in Ireland is this: the person primarily responsible for the admission of a pauper into the workhouse is the relieving officer. A person is destitute; he goes to the nearest relieving officer, and he states that he requires food; the relieving officer makes inquiries as to the man he sees, who he is, and where he lives; and he uses his judgment either to desire the man to attend at the workhouse on the next Board-day, to come before the Board, or, if he thinks that it is an urgent case, and one which ought to be attended to immediately, he has the power to admit him at once upon what is called a "provisional order," which order is submitted to the Board at its next meeting, and either confirmed by them or disallowed, as they think proper. In the first case, where the applicant comes in the usual way before the Board, the Board make inquiries about him, hear what the relieving officer has to say, and decide whether they will admit him or not; but in both cases, if the relieving officer refuses him, or if the Board eventually refuses him, and the man dies, whoever has refused is liable to be tried for manslaughter for not having given relief; so that there is a very great unwillingness on the part of both relieving officers and guardians to refuse relief; they feel their responsibility, and I must say that in general they lean to the merciful side.

2289. My question rather referred, not to original admissions, but to the class of persons which has been alluded to, who have been brought up in the workhouse from infancy, and who, having become adult and being able-bodied, and having an opportunity of finding work out of the workhouse, are still retained in it; is that the practice in Ireland?—We make what exertions we can to train them to useful occupations, so as to fit them for employment outside; but there is a very great prejudice, I must say, in the country against the employment of children or young persons who have been a long time in a workhouse.

2290. Have you any able-bodied men of this class in the workhouse?—Very few; out of a population of I think 800, the last day I was at the Clogheen Union we had only 13 able-bodied men.

2291. Sir *J. Young*.] With regard to a young person who has been brought up in a workhouse, supposing an offer of employment was given to him on any reasonable terms, would not the guardians force him to accept it?—Decidedly, because the moment a person had an offer of employment on fair terms, the guardians would say, "this person is not destitute."

2292. Colonel *Mure*.] I suppose in the same way you would make inquiries in the neighbourhood whether there were not persons willing to employ such parties, and if so, you would in the same manner insist upon their going into their service?—We are obliged to be very particular. A terrible case occurred in our union. One of the towns in the union is a garrison town, and a woman very respectably dressed, and appearing very respectable, came to the workhouse one day, and offered employment to three or four young women, and the young

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women were turned out in consequence; they were told that as they were offered employment on fair terms, they were no longer destitute, and that we could not continue to relieve them; but it turned out that this woman was a procuress, and that those unfortunate girls were brought to the garrison town and prostituted to the soldiers; so that we are obliged to be very careful as to the parties in whose hands we shall put young females, because although, undoubtedly, if you take the strict letter of the law, the women were not destitute, still, forcing them out of the workhouse, and placing them in the hands of a person of that kind, was sending them to ruin.

2293. My question of course implied that they would be respectable, and *bonâ fide* parties pointed out to these young people as offering them, and being able to afford them employment?—We should find it much more easy to dispose of some of our young people if we had more facilities from the Poor-law Commissioners to apprentice them to trades. Very many cases have come before me of very well-conducted lads who have been three and four years in the workhouse, just rising into manhood and anxious to learn a trade; the tradesmen will not take them without an apprentice fee, and we have no power to give an apprentice fee.

2294. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Would you desire the power to pay a fee?—I quite admit that it is very liable to abuse, but certainly cases have come under my cognizance where the avenues of life, if one may use the expression, have been closed against respectable deserving young men, merely because the fee was not forthcoming to apprentice them to a carpenter, tailor, or shoemaker, or something of that sort.

2295. You are aware that in some parts of Ireland the practice has arisen of providing an outfit for young persons, and that that has been sufficient to enable them to obtain employment in a trade?—In some cases it has, but the only way in which we have got over the difficulty practically, in our union, has been by putting our hands into our own pockets.

2296. To what portions of Ireland does your statement apply, as to the difficulty of providing for young persons?—The unions in my immediate neighbourhood; the union of Clogheen, the union of Milchelstown, and the union of Clonmel, in which there is an enormous number of young persons.

2297. Are you aware of any reason which should make a difference between your district and other parts of Ireland, in which it is stated that there is a very considerable demand for the labour of young persons who have been brought up in the workhouses, and that they are taken out as soon as they are fit to work?—I can give no reason for it, except that the demand exists, and that I think the opinion which generally prevails is that the number of hands in the country are becoming too few for the work to be done. When I first went to live in that district the usual wages of an able-bodied labouring man were eight-pence a day. The wages certainly have risen, but, excepting seed time and harvest, you can get as many men as you choose for ten-pence a day. It would be very difficult to make me believe that a labour market in which labour can be had for ten-pence a day is an understocked market, and I am quite convinced that the young population of the workhouses, in the district in which I live, never will be absorbed among the general labouring populatiou until the labour market rises much higher than it is at present.

2298. Then it is to that cause that you attribute the difference between the success of the agricultural school in the Clogheen Union and what has taken place in other parts of Ireland, as for instance, at Galway, where we are informed that there is the greatest possible demand for the young persons brought up in the workhouse agricultural school?—It is to that cause; it may appear a parodox.

2299. Not to anything in the management of the Clogheen school?—On the contrary, our school was most successful as a school for teaching agricultural knowledge; our master was a most excellent man, who understood his business thoroughly well, but we found that the benefit derived bore no proportion at all to the cost of the institution.

2300. Sir *G. Grey.*] While that comparatively low rate of wages remains in a large district of Ireland, do you think that there will be still a desire on the part of the able-bodied poor to come to England for employment?—I think not; I think that the whole aspirations of the people are turned towards America, and that they come to England as a temporary expedient, but as a temporary expedient only; and I think it is temporary on account of the existing laws. As I said before, a married man is held by the Poor-law in Ireland responsible for the support of his wife and of all her children. A man has a large family, for which he

he is responsible; with the low rate of wages which are current in the country he finds it excessively difficult to support them. He deserts his wife and children, and runs off to England; the wife and children of course go to the poor-house. If we could catch him we would give him three months' imprisonment by a clause in our Poor-law Act; but he lies hid in England, and he does not come back perhaps for a year, or if he is taken sick in England, or anything happens to him, he knows perfectly well that he may send whatever surplus earnings he may have in his pocket to his wife, or to some friend in Ireland by post-office order, go to the next parish officer, ask for relief, and be sent back to Ireland at the public expense. But if an Irishman were not removable from England, and if he felt that he could go over and obtain employment at full wages at some place in England, and that he would not be liable to be removed by any accident, such as sickness or anything of that kind, the certainty is, that he would not desert his wife and children, but that he would take them with him; that he would establish himself in some place in England; that he would quit the kind of roving desultory life which he now leads, and that he would become a respectable steady working man. But the man will not take his wife and children to England now, because, although he does not care about being sent off by steamer to Cork, he would feel it excessively disagreeable to have his wife and children sent in that way, and the practical result is, that we are obliged to support his wife and children in Ireland while he is living upon very high wages in England; and it very often happens that these wages are sent by post-office order as soon as the man wishes to come home, and he goes and reports himself to some parish officer in England, and is sent home at the expense of that parish. Instances constantly occur of that kind.

2301. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Have cases of that sort come to your own knowledge?—Innumerable cases of men going to England and deserting their wives and children, and leaving them to us to support, have come to my knowledge; and instances have come to my knowledge of post-office orders arriving, not to the wife, because then it would come to our cognizance, but to some friend of the wife, and her coming to us, and asking for leave to go out for a day, making some excuse, saying that some relative was sick, or something of that sort, but the perfectly understood object is to go out and get the post-office order cashed.

2302. Sir *G. Grey.*] Then do you believe that many persons who go over from Ireland to England with a view to get employment are passed back under orders of removal without being obliged to apply for relief, but applying for the purpose of obtaining a passage home?—I am quite certain of it.

2303. Is the number great that goes annually now from that part of the country to England under those circumstances?—I had a return once made to me by the master of the Clogheen Union, and we estimated that there were about 40 heads of families.

2304. Within what time?—At that time that there were 40 families of women and children, the heads of which were in England.

2305. When was that?—I think it was about two years ago.

2306. Out of a population of what amount?—The population of the union in 1851 was 33,000 odd.

2307. Mr. *F. Ball.*] On the subject of the state of the labour market in the district of the neighbouring unions round you, can you state whether the extent of tillage has fallen off very considerably within the last few years?—In my immediate neighbourhood it has.

2308. Do you attribute to that mainly the circumstance, that in spite of the great diminution of the population, the demand for labour should not yet have become so great as it appears to be in other parts of Ireland?—I think it is to be attributed to that, to a certain extent.

2309. Is there more land laid down under crops this year than last year or the preceding year?—This year the high price of wheat after the last harvest has tempted many to break up grass land, so that I think there is more tillage this year than there was last year.

2310. Judging from the general state of the country, the class of persons who now farm, and the amount of capital which has been invested in farming, should you think it probable that the demand for labour would increase as compared with the years since the famine?—I am quite certain that it will, and the only thing which has astonished me is that it has not increased as yet to the extent which everybody expected it would.

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2311. Probably you are aware that in other parts of Ireland the wages of labour have risen beyond the extent which you speak of; have you seen any disposition to migrate in consequence of higher wages being given, we will say, in the neighbourhood of Cork and Dublin, and the county of Waterford?—No; if there is any disposition to migrate at all it is to America. I should state that I myself am a considerable employer of labour; I have a very large farm, and I give 1*s.* a day to my common agricultural labourers, but I do that because I wish to keep them steady, and by giving them something a little more than the market price, it prevents them from leaving.

2312. Mr. *Maguire.*] Does your Lordship know anything of the state of the labour market in the neighbourhood of Limerick and Waterford?—Nothing, except by report; I cannot speak from my own knowledge of either of those places.

2313. Should you be surprised to hear that an agricultural labourer gets 1*s.* a day and food near Waterford?—I should not, if it was close to the town of Waterford.

2314. Seven miles or 15 miles from the town?—I should doubt that statement being correct, because I happen to know that Lord Waterford, who lives about 12 miles from the town, and is a very large employer of labour, does not give that amount.

2315. Have you heard that from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 4*d.* a day is considered average wages in or near Waterford, in the agricultural districts round Waterford?—I should not be surprised at it.

2316. You have said that there are 40 families in your workhouse, the heads of whom are now in England?—They were supposed to be in England; it is very possible that some of them might have been dead.

3217. Do you mean to imply by that, that there would be 40 frauds upon the parishes of this country, by applications for relief, which would involve a transmission to Ireland?—No, nothing of the kind; I merely made that statement with respect to the fraud, which is the common way for a road to be made back, but I have not the slighest doubt that some of these men are honest men, who are obliged temporarily to leave their wives and families in our workhouse, and send for them afterwards.

2318. You do not mean to say that those parties would not have sent for their families when they had established themselves by their industry in England?—Certainly not.

2319. With respect to pauper education in Irish workhouses, you do not mean by what you state to depreciate the value of pauper education in those workhouses?—On the contrary, as guardians, we have always held it to be our duty to educate the people committed to our charge.

2320. Do you observe this as the necessary result of education of a better order, that the young girls or young boys who receive education are very anxious to go out into the world and establish themselves?—Most anxious; that is, with the exception of that class of girls to which I have already alluded, who are anxious to emigrate to Australia, and they will often remain in the workhouse for that purpose.

2321. When was your agricultural school given up?—After last harvest.

2322. How many acres of ground had you attached to the workhouse?—Our agricultural school was separated from the workhouse; it was at a place about six miles distant; and we thought it of value because it completely separated the children from the parents; I think the extent of our farm was 20 acres of land.

2323. Do not you think that your farm being six miles from the workhouse, rendered it practically unmanageable?—Certainly not; we found it far better; there was an auxiliary workhouse at the farm, in which we accommodated all the young persons between the ages of 9 and 15, both boys and girls.

2324. In point of fact, do not you find by experience that teaching young girls and young boys in the workhouse imbues them with a desire for independence, and a feeling of self-reliance; do not you find that practically the result?—Certainly, it has been the result where we have been able to keep them long enough; but we must never lose sight of the extremely fluctuating nature of the population of a workhouse, and the great injustice which young children suffer in consequence. A worthless parent, say, brings two or three very young children into the workhouse; they are clothed in rags and dirty; we put them into clean clothes, we wash them, and we endeavour to teach them something in the school; perhaps

perhaps they are not there a week or ten days before the father says he will go out; according to our law, we are obliged to turn out the children, and I have myself seen the poor little children crying at the door of the workhouse, because their parents insisted upon taking them out; they felt that it was much better for them to be there, to be cleanly clad and fed, and taught, than to be wandering about the roads begging.

2325. Is it likely that an able-bodied man would apply for relief in the workhouse in case he could get employment outside?—I think that such a case is exceedingly rare. I cannot positively say that such a case has not come under my observation; I have seen occasional cases of it, where I have had reason to believe that the person could obtain a livelihood, but they are exceedingly rare.

2326. If the workhouse test were adopted in this country, where the applicant for relief was an Irish person, do you think that the test would be equally effective in this country as in Ireland?—I think so.

2327. Do you think, from your knowledge of the country, that it is probable that any large number of persons will go from Ireland to England for the purpose of begging?—Certainly not; the object with which they go is uniformly, so far as my experience goes, that of obtaining employment; and it is perfectly natural that, when the wages of an able-bodied man are so much higher in England than they are in the part of Ireland in which I live, they should go for employment. As to going for begging, I utterly disbelieve it. Persons may have gone for begging in the time of the famine, when the whole country was disorganised; but I have never heard of an instance of a person going to England for the purpose of begging.

2328. Then if the law of removal were repealed, so far as Irish persons were regarded, would you have any fear of the consequences of the repeal of that law in the case of an English ratepayer, say in Liverpool or Bristol, or any of the large seaport towns?—I should not, provided the Irish pauper were treated in England exactly as he is treated in Ireland. I certainly must admit that, with the loose system of out-door relief which prevails in England, the giving of such a very large proportion, three-fifths, I think, of the funds being expended in out-relief, I should be a little afraid of the effect which a system so administered would have upon the character of the Irish poor, which is not remarkable for independence. If they were treated in England exactly in the same way as we treat them in Ireland, I should not have the least fear, if I were an English ratepayer, of putting them upon the same footing as the English themselves.

2329. *Chairman.*] Is your Lordship of opinion, then, that before you could do away entirely with the system of removal, it would be necessary to make that kind of change in the first instance in England?—It does not appear to me to be a change which requires legislation. As I understand the English poor-law, it rests with the Board of Guardians in England to determine how they will deal with each application which is made to them.

2330. If public opinion in this country should be in such a state, that a certain amount of out-door relief is absolutely necessary, and cannot be got rid of, does your Lordship think that that creates a difficulty in the way of taking away entirely the power of removal with regard to the Irish paupers?—I do not, because I do not at all enter into the question of out-door relief as regards English paupers. If it should be the opinion of those who manage the English poor-law, that it is judicious to retain the amount of out-door relief which is now given to English paupers, let them do so; but nothing could be more simple than to restrict it, and to treat the Irish paupers in a special manner.

2331. Then, would you have a special workhouse for the Irish in England, or a special set of regulations for the Irish?—I would restrict relief to them entirely to in-door relief. I would give them no out-door relief under any circumstances, except circumstances in which they could claim it in Ireland, and the category of out-door relief in Ireland is excessively limited.

2332. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the feeling entertained towards the present law and its restrictions in Ireland?—There is but one feeling upon the subject, and it is this, that we are not put upon an equality with England; that we are working at a disadvantage.

2333. Sir *G. Grey.*] In what respect is the inequality complained of?—With reference to the present system, I understand the question to be simply this: if an Englishman or a Scotchman, or in fact a native of any country in the world,

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world, becomes destitute in Ireland, we must relieve him, whenever he becomes destitute, and we are prohibited from removing him.

2334. Is not that rather an inequality in theory than in practice?—I have heard that objection before, but it is not entirely an inequality in theory only. Cases do occur in which Englishmen are relieved by the Irish Poor-law. Some cases occur in my union; I cannot say many, because the union is in a retired rural district, not much in the way of passage; but there are the cases of such people as sailors going from an Irish port to an English port, and becoming destitute upon the way; and the wives and children of soldiers who are left in garrison towns by regiments proceeding on foreign service; cases of that sort do occur. But I would particularly draw the attention of the Committee to the immense injustice which the sea-port towns suffer. The Removal Act gives authority to the English parishes to remove Irish paupers to certain ports, which are named in a schedule attached to the Act, and the Poor-law authorities are not bound to take into consideration at all how these ports stand with relation to the native places of the paupers; so that you may have a pauper, whose native place, I cannot say settlement, because there is no such thing as settlement in Ireland, but whose native place, and the place where he would most probably obtain relief, and be able to get employment, we will say may be Donegal; he becomes destitute in London, and the only question which the London parish practically considers is this, "How shall we get this man in the cheapest way to one of the ports. We will suppose that Waterford is one of the ports: they send this man to Waterford, and he is landed on the quay at Waterford, and immediately applies to the Board of Guardians for relief.

2335. Is not your Lordship aware that by law they are bound to send him to the port nearest the place of his birth, unless he himself consents to have another port inserted in the order?—I would remark upon that, that I believe that fully one-half the people who are removed to Ireland by the operation of this law, very imperfectly understand what they are doing when they are brought before the magistrates. I may state that in the case of Margaret M'Carthy, to which I have before alluded, the poor woman swore that she was brought before the magistrate at Lambeth police court, that she was put through a form which she did not understand, that she was told that she would be sent to prison if she did not comply, and that she knew nothing more about it, except that the magistrate went through some form or another which she was forced by the Poor-law authorities to submit to, and that she was put on board a steamer, and sent to Ireland. I believe that instances of that sort constantly occur; and that, although it may be against the letter of the law, the practical question which the parish authorities decide is, "How shall we get rid of this person in the cheapest manner?" A case occurred, which was stated some short time ago, of a person who was sent to Limerick from London who had no connexion whatever with Limerick, whose native place was more than 100 miles away from it. I do not at this moment recollect the name; but that person declared before the magistrate at Limerick that she had not given her consent to the proceedings at all.

2336. What was the nearest port to her place of birth?—I should have said Dublin would have been the nearest port; I think she lived somewhere in the centre of Ireland.

2337. Would it not have been cheaper to send her to Dublin than to Limerick; was she not sent to Limerick probably in compliance with the law, which required that she should be sent to the port nearest to the place of birth?—No; there are steamers which run between Limerick and London, and they bring large cargoes to London, but return generally not so heavily laden.

2338. Is the passage-money cheaper from London to Limerick than from London to Dublin?—So it was understood, although the passage is a much longer one; it is 70 hours from London to Limerick.

2339. Mr. *J. Ball.*] However that may be, without the power of tranmission, the injustice, whatever degree of injustice there is at the Irish ports, is quite equal whether the place of birth is nearer or not?—It does not affect the argument the least in the world.

2340. *Chairman.*] With regard to the facts which your Lordship has stated, I presume you form your judgment upon the statements of the paupers; you have no other means of forming a judgment?—Upon the statements of paupers almost uniformly; in fact, whenever we have proceeded with a case with the intention of making an application to the Poor-law Commissioners upon it, we have always taken the information upon oath.

2341. Of the pauper?—Of the pauper.

2342. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to a question which was put by the Chairman, is it your opinion that English Boards of Guardians who apprehend any mischievous consequences from the loss of the power of removal, would be sufficiently protected by using the discretion which the law now vests in them to place Irish paupers, or any of them, who appear improperly to become chargeable to the union in the workhouse, and that practically that would give them as great a protection as the guardians in Ireland now have, and as great a protection as they can require?—I think so. There may be one practical difficulty which I am bound to mention, namely, that I understand that the arrangement of the English unions is somewhat complicated, that all the parishes in England are not in union, but that there are what are called single parishes, which manage their own affairs singly, and that the size and extent, the population, and the value of unions in England vary extremely. In Ireland we certainly have a great advantage. When the poor-law was introduced we had a *tabula rasa* to work upon, and we divided the country into unions, which although not absolutely equal in size, and population, and value, generally speaking bear a fair proportion the one to the other.

2343. *Chairman.*] You had a set of new workhouses, too, all over the country, had you not?—We had; there is one workhouse at least in every union. By the Poor-law Act we have the power of increasing our accommodation indefinitely, as we find occasion for it.

2344. Mr. *Maguire.*] The country, then, is in a better position to meet any extraordinary emergency than it was at the time of the famine, so far as poor-law relief is regarded?—I must always protest against the poor-law in any country being called upon to meet extraordinary emergencies. I think that the greatest possible mistake was made in calling upon the Irish poor-law system, in the autumn of 1847, to bear the whole weight of the famine. I believe that the present Irish poor-law system is nearly as perfect an organisation as we can have for the relief of ordinary destitution; but I should be very sorry, if it please Providence again to afflict Ireland with such a famine as we had in 1846 and 1847, to trust to the poor-law organisation alone for its relief.

2345. Sir *G. Grey.*] Then you think that in the event of the recurrence of such an emergency, there would still be, notwithstanding the perfect system of poor-law administration in Ireland, a great risk perhaps of an influx of paupers into Liverpool?—I do not.

2346. Your Lordship is aware that it is stated in evidence that, within three months in 1847, 130,000 Irish paupers were landed at Liverpool. In the event, improbable we hope, of any such emergency arising again, if the poor-law is not to be relied on in Ireland, what other ground of confidence is there that a large number of paupers would not come to England for the purpose of obtaining relief, so as to overwhelm the workhouse accommodation of any place like Liverpool?—I must observe, in the first place, that I do not contemplate such a horrible contingency as such another famine in Ireland as we had in 1846 and 1847; I do not think that Providence generally afflicts the same country with such a curse twice in the same century. But the bearing of my last answer was simply this, that I think that further measures would be required if such a calamity did recur. I have no doubt that those measures would be adopted, and I am quite sure that the experience which our failures in the late famine have given us, would enable us to adopt, and to add, in fact, to the present poor-law system such an efficient system of relief as would render it perfectly unnecessary for the poor to leave the country.

2347. Mr. *Maguire.*] When your Lordship says that it is not likely that such a horrible contingency would again arrive, of course you take into consideration the enormous diminution of the poor population of the country, do you not?—That has diminished especially; and while the poor have diminished, the persons in easy circumstances have proportionably increased.

2348. Under an ordinary state of things, is it not likely that employment must increase in Ireland?—Decidedly; as I said before, I wonder that wages have not risen; but I am perfectly convinced that wages must rise, and I do not at all despair of seeing the day when our wages in Ireland will be as remunerative to the workman as they are in England, and, in fact, I believe that there are some exceptional districts in which wages are as high in Ireland now as they are in England.

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2349. You cannot conceive, then, the probability of 130,000 persons ever going from Ireland in one year to Liverpool in future?—I think it would be utterly impossible; it certainly has very much surprised me to hear that it took place. Out of those 130,000 who went to Liverpool, I should imagine a very large proportion must have been people who were on their way to America.

2350. Does your Lordship think it is probable that any large number of persons would leave Ireland to go to England for the purpose of begging there, they having to pay their passage money of 10*s.* or 12*s.* to England?—I think not; and even supposing that they could get to England for little or nothing, I do not think that they would go, because it strikes me that a beggar has a much better chance in Ireland than he has in England. It is the habit of the people (it may, perhaps, partly be the consequence of the religion of the people), even of the very poorest in Ireland to give to beggars. I have observed beggars going through my own estate; I have seen them go from door to door of the cottages of the farmers, and I have scarcely ever seen them go away empty. I think it is very much to be deplored, for I think it encourages that kind of wandering life which beggars lead; but if I am asked in which country a beggar has the best chance of picking up relief, if I was a beggar myself, I would certainly much rather live in Ireland than in England.

2351. Is not that system of roving mendicancy becoming gradually diminished; has it not diminished in the last two or three years?—I think it has, but not to the extent I should wish.

2352. Is your Lordship speaking of the rural districts?—I am.

2353. Do you know anything of the habit in towns, say Limerick, Waterford, Clonmel, or Cork?—Mendicancy has diminished in the town of Clonmel certainly.

2354. Do not you know that it has been very much discouraged in Limerick, Waterford, and in all great cities and towns?—It certainly has.

2355. In fact, then, if you were a ratepayer in the town of Liverpool, and knowing what you do of Ireland, would you really have any fear if the present law of removal were done away?—I should not, because I am quite satisfied that even under the contingency of famine which has been alluded to, with our present system of poor-law, aided by an efficient system of relief which we did not really possesss in the late famine, we should be able to feed our people at home, and to feed them so efficiently that they would not desire or wish to leave home.

2356. If the law, as was proposed the other day, were abolished so far as the poor of England were regarded, and the law remained as it now is, so far as the poor of Ireland were regarded, what would be the feeling in Ireland?—We should feel, and very naturally feel, that we were subject to gross injustice, and that we were treated in fact as if we were helots. It is perfectly notorious that the poor Irish are the hewers of wood and drawers of water in the different towns of England; that there is a large population of them fulfilling very humble, but at the same time very useful occupations in Liverpool and Manchester, and various other towns in the north of England, and that there are a great number of them in London. Why should these men, who have expended their best years in honest service in these towns, be denied the rights which are given to all the rest of the world around? The answer which we should give in Ireland would be, "simply because they are Irishmen;" there can be no other reason, and naturally we should feel, the poor themselves would feel, in the first instance, and certainly the whole people of Ireland would feel in the next, that we were all of us subjected to gross injustice.

2357. Sir *G. Grey.*] Your Lordship is aware that the law is the same as it regards Scotch paupers?—I am perfectly aware of it; and with respect to Scotland there is a population of, I believe, something like 30,000 or 40,000 Irish in the city of Glasgow, who are living exactly in the same manner as those in Liverpool and Manchester, to whom I have before alluded.

2358. Is your Lordship aware whether any large amount of the sum annually expended in the relief of the poor in England is expended upon Irish paupers residing in England?—I have not seen any return which gives the amount.

2359. But your Lordship does not mean to imply, by some answers which you gave some time ago, that you believe that all the Irish who become chargeable to parishes in England are removed; do not you believe the fact to be, that a very large amount of relief is given from English poor-rates to Irish paupers resident

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in England?—Casual relief I have no doubt there is; but the present law, namely, the demanding of five years' continual residence within a parish to constitute irremovability, is a practical difficulty which, I am sure, nine-tenths of the Irish poor in England cannot get over, and I have heard it stated, that employers, even in England, take steps to prevent Irish poor obtaining irremovability.

2360. Your Lordship has perhaps heard that that is also alleged to be done extensively with regard to English paupers?—I have no doubt it is.

2361. Mr. *J. Ball.*] In case, from any extraordinary circumstances, your anticipations should prove incorrect, and anything led to an influx of destitute Irish poor into England, would you conceive it just to extend the provisions of the law, so as to make it similar to what exists in Ireland, and to make it penal for a destitute person to go from one place to another for the purpose of seeking relief anywhere in the United Kingdom, and also would you retain the power of removal as to persons convicted of that offence?—I doubt whether I would, because the object of all these penalties is to deter, and I conceive that the event which the question supposes, namely, a large influx of paupers into England, could only occur in a time of panic, when people would be running away from a country which was subjected to a fearful famine and pestilence; I do not think that any penalties would prevent them from doing so, if they were subject to those feelings, and it is only those feelings that, I think, would ever have that effect.

2362. Take this case; suppose that the Guardians, or the local authority in England, should maintain a very lax system of relief, and that the consequence should be that beggars arrived, say in Bristol or in Liverpool, and immediately asked for relief, if that took place in Ireland, persons so coming would be punished; do you not think it would be just to extend that provision?—Certainly; but we find very great difficulty in carrying out punishments in Ireland under the Poor-law Act, for rather a curious reason; the discipline of all our well-managed work-houses is sufficiently severe; the labour test is strictly enforced upon all the able-bodied, and every person within the walls of the institution who is able to do anything is kept employed; in our gaols, I am sorry to say that in many cases the machinery of keeping the prisoners committed to gaol for short terms at employment is not very complete, and the extraordinary part of the thing is that the dietary of the gaols, which is under the authority of the judges of the Queen's Bench, is a great deal better than the dietary of the poor-houses, so that very often we have found that boys have committed offences and had themselves brought up before the magistrates for having committed offences, in the poor-house for the very purpose of exchanging the poor-house for the gaol, feeling that they were better off and more comfortable in the gaol than in the poor-house, better fed, and with not more work to do.

2363. Are you aware that the dietary in most of the gaols of persons sentenced for short periods has been lately assimilated to the poor-law dietary?—It has not been assimilated to the poor-law dietary; it has been reduced in amount, and I believe it was done in consequence of complaints made of the very sort which I have spoken of; but even still I am afraid that unless a kind of discretionary power is given to the members of the Gaol Board to deal with these poor-law cases in a special way, the effect will be very much diminished.

2364. *Chairman.*] Is the poor-law dietary in Ireland, as far as your Lordship knows, equal to or inferior to the poor-law dietary in the Union houses of England?—That is a question which I should not like to undertake to answer.

2365. But I understand your Lordship to be of opinion, that before the power of removal could be taken away with safety to the interests of England, it would be necessary, in one respect at all events, to have the poor-law system in England assimilated to the poor-law system in Ireland?—As far as regards the relief of Irish paupers; I do not wish to offer an opinion at all as to what is the best system of poor relief of English-born persons; it has been stated, and perhaps with truth, that their habits and feelings differ so much from those of our poor, that a different system is necessary for them; that may be true or may not.

2366. Would it not be likely, in your Lordship's opinion, to constitute an invidious distinction that the law with regard to the relief of an Irishman in England should be to send him into the workhouse in all cases, whereas for an Englishman it should be in the discretion of the guardians to give him in-door or out-door relief?—I do not think an Irishman would feel it to be a practical objection, because it is just the way he is treated in his own country.

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2367. Then, so far as the Irish are concerned, there would be no objection to that distinction?—I do not think there would. Of course the Board of Guardians might use their discretion, because cases might occur of temporary disablement; for instance, a bricklayer's hodman breaks his leg by falling off a ladder; that man's wife and children perhaps may become chargeable while he is getting himself cured: it would be for the Board of Guardians to consider whether they would take that family into the workhouse, or give them temporary relief until the head of the family was again able to support them.

2368. But, as a general rule, it should be in-door relief in the case of an Irishman, though it was discretionary whether in-door or out-door relief in the case of an Englishman; your Lordship thinks that that would be practicable as a system in England?—I think it would.

2369. You have stated that you conceive it is necessary in England to have the means of giving in-door relief exclusively to the Irish; in Scotland how would it be; would it be necessary for them to provide themselves with workhouses, so as to give in-door relief before the power of removal from Scotland to Ireland could be safely taken away?—I believe there is only one neighbourhood in Scotland in which there is any number of Irish poor, that is Glasgow, and the mining district in the neighbourhood of it. I understand, from gentlemen who come from the eastern part of Scotland, that the number of Irish poor there is very small, and that there would be no practical difficulty there; but, if the Scotch have at present no workhouses at all for the reception of paupers, it would obviously be necessary to establish one at Glasgow, if the system which I have suggested were adopted.

2370. Has your Lordship any other suggestion to make?—I just wish to say one thing with respect to our system of relief. I wish to hand in this letter; it is a letter from the Clerk of the Clogheen Union to myself, showing the amount of rates which have been declared for the year from the 25th of March 1854 to the 25th of March 1855.

2371. Sir *G. Grey*.] With what view does your Lordship wish to put it in as bearing upon the question of removal?—I wish to show the excessively moderate charge of our own poor, and the inference which I draw from that is this: if we can manage to relieve our own poor for the excessively moderate charges which appear in this estimate, what reasons have the guardians of English Unions to fear a dangerous influx of paupers from us to them? I would remark that this estimate includes the whole of the medical relief, which is given upon a much more liberal scale in Ireland than it is in England, and the highest yearly rate is 2*s.* 10*d.* in the pound, from which it goes down as low as 10*d.* in the pound.

2372. Does it give the weekly cost of maintenance for an able-bodied pauper, including the whole expenses?—I can give you that from another return; the average weekly cost has risen considerably within the last four or five months, in consequence of the price of provisions; but the total weekly cost of provisions, necessaries, and clothing for the half year ending 29th September 1853, on the average of the whole of Ireland, was 1*s.* 4*d.*

2373. That is on the average of all classes I suppose; I asked what was the expense of maintaining an able-bodied pauper, including the establishment charges, and every expense to which he puts the union?—I do not think I can state that; they make an average of their cost, and they do not distinguish, because the chargeability is calculated upon that average.

[*His Lordship delivered in the following Letter:*]

My Lord, Clogheen Union, May 24, 1854.

I BEG leave to forward for your Lordship's information a statement of the rates yesterday declared upon the several divisions of the union calculated to provide for the expenditure for twelve months, ending 25th March 1855, and including a sum of 500*l.* over the estimated expenditure of the year, to carry on the union between the 25th March next and the period of striking the next rate after that date. I beg to add, that from the rates agreed to, the sum of 342*l.* will be deducted for credits due to townlands on adjustment on account of the old union rates.

I have, &c.
Jos. Kettlewell.

ELECTORAL DIVISIONS.

Rate in the £.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Ardfinnan	–	10	Derrygrath	–	11
Ballybacon	–	10	Kilcoran	1	11
Ballyporeen	1	10	Mortlestown	–	11
Burncourt	–	10	Newcastle	1	5
Caher	2	5	Tubbrid	1	2
Clogheen	2	10	Tullaghmelan	–	11
Coalagarranrar	2	2	Tullaghorton	1	4

To the Right hon. the Earl of Donoughmore,
London.

2374. Mr. *Maguire*.] Your Lordship was speaking of in-door relief in this country as a test of destitution; would you not rather apply it to the migratory poor than to the industrious Irish poor who might be resident, say, for four years or three years, in a parish?—Of course, when I speak of applying the in-door test to Irish paupers, I only mean that it should be applied at the discretion of the Board of Guardians, and that discretion would probably be only used where they had reason to suspect the *bona fides* of the applicant; if a person had been residing for four years, or even for a lesser period, I would say for two years, and had been honestly earning his bread, and that person applied for relief, I think the Board of Guardians would probably defeat themselves by offering him the workhouse.

2375. You would have it just put upon the same footing as with an Englishman?—I would be content as an experiment, in the first instance, that it should be at the option of the Board of Guardians; but I am perfectly certain that, with respect to very large masses of the Irish-born poor in England, practically it would be found that the power would be very seldom used, and used only perhaps in a case where they had reason to suspect that there was no *bona fides*.

2376. Colonel *Blair*.] Are you aware that a settlement in Scotland is acquired much more easily than in England?—I am not at all acquainted with the Scotch law of settlement.

2377. Five years' residence in a parish gives a settlement in Scotland?—That is the same as in England.

2378. But you do not acquire a settlement in England on the same terms?—Not a settlement; but five years' continual residence in one parish renders the person who so resides irremovable, at least so I understand the English law. The question of settlement is quite immaterial; it is a question whether the person is removable or not.

2379. Do not you think it would be unjust to that part of Scotland to which you allow that paupers come over, that that power of removal should be taken away?—I am ignorant entirely of the Scotch Poor-law system; I do not know whether it is worked in unions, or in single parishes.

2380. In parishes chiefly?—I should not think it unjust if you had an extended area over which to put the charge of paupers who had not a settlement, or who had not sufficient residence to make them properly chargeable upon a smaller area of taxation; if, in fact, you had in Scotland a system somewhat similar to ours, where a small area of taxation, which is called an electoral division, is responsible for the support of all the poor persons who have resided within the boundary of it for 12 months in the last three years. Whenever a pauper is relieved who does not fulfil that condition, his support is then charged upon the larger area of taxation, which is called the union. I certainly admit that if you have one area of taxation, namely, a parish, and if you force that parish to support not merely the poor born or having a settlement within it, but also all the other poor who may happen to become destitute in it, individual cases of very great hardship may occur; but if you have what we call in Ireland a union pauper, that is, a pauper who has not resided a sufficient time to render it just or fair that he should be charged to a particular district, and he is charged on the whole union, I do not think that a practical difficulty occurs.

John Barrington, Esq., called in; and Examined.

J. Barrington, Esq.
29 May 1854.

2381. Mr. *Maguire.*] YOU are the vice-chairman of the Limerick Union?—I am.

2382. How many years have you been connected with that union?—Four.

2383. Has your attention been called to the removal of Irish poor from this country?—Yes.

2384. How many are there of those transmitted poor in the Limerick Union at present?—On the last day that I was at the workhouse, I think the 20th of this month, there were in the house only four.

2385. How many have there been during the last six months?—I cannot exactly tell you, for I have not the numbers.

2386. What is the gross number in the workhouse at present?—On Saturday, the 20th of May, there were 3,518.

2387. How many of those people had been landed in Limerick within the last year?—About 40 from London.

2388. Besides those who have been landed in Limerick from the steamers, have a number come who have been landed at other places in Ireland?—A number have been relieved by the guardians of the Limerick Union from other counties.

2389. Have a number of the paupers who have been sent from this country to other parts made their way to your union, and applied for relief there?—Yes; after arriving at Limerick they have applied to the relieving officer, and until they have got away to their own union they have been relieved.

2390. On the 17th of this month were any landed there?—Seven.

2391. Have you any case of what you consider hardship in the operation of the present law?—Several.

2392. *Chairman.*] Are you speaking of the last seven who arrived?—No; not the last seven, but four who are in the house at present, and two others not in the house at present, but who have been relieved by the union.

2393. Sir *G. Grey.*] Are you going to advert to the cases of the four who are now in the union, and who were removed from this country under orders of removal?—Yes.

2394. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it your object in putting these cases before the Committee rather to establish hardship than illegality?—Both; in fact, the object of putting them before the Committee is to show the hardship upon the paupers, and the illegality, as we conceive, of sending them to Limerick to be relieved there.

2395. Sir *G. Grey.*] Will you state the cases to illustrate that?—There is the case of Honoria Hickey; she was 50 years of age; she left Ireland when very young, and came to reside in London; she got married here.

2396. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you her declaration?—This is the examination which I took from her on Saturday last: she was married here (London) about 25 years ago; her husband was a bricklayer, working at the Duke of Bedford's estate, I think, in Covent Garden; he was killed; some bricks fell on him, and he died in the hospital; she supported herself and her family of three children for several years, 25 years. However, she became infirm, got the rheumatism, and she was relieved at the Holborn Union, where she had been frequently relieved before; this was, I think, in the month of December last, from which union she was sent by steamer to Limerick.

2397. Mr. *Maguire.*] Will you read her statement?—She states that she was born at Cahercorney, near Herbertstown, in the county of Limerick, in the union of Kilmallock; she says, "I left Ireland on the death of my father and mother, when I was about nineteen or twenty years old, and went to London, and was employed as cook and servant in several families in Holborn; I was married about 25 years ago, in the Catholic Church, Saint George's in the Fields, London, by the Reverend Mr. Doyle, to John Hickrey, an Irishman, formerly from Lemonfield, near Limerick; he was a bricklayer, and working at Covent Garden Market, making cellars on the Duke of Bedford's estate. We lived together for five years in Ely-court and Bell-court, and had three children, one of whom is dead, the other two, a son and daughter, are living and residing in London, one serving his time to a carver and gilder, and the other a servant. My husband was killed twenty years next Christmas, at the above works, by the ground falling in on him, and he died in Charing-cross Hospital. I remained in London until last Michaelmas, when

when I applied for relief to the Holborn Union, where I was frequently before relieved, for ten years being afflicted with pains in my bones. I was told by the guardians then that I did not belong to them, and was required to swear before a magistrate as to the parish where I was born, which I accordingly did, before a magistrate, but I told him I had no claim on Ireland, as I spent my life working in London. I was then put on board the "European" steamer for Limerick with provisions for the voyage. I arrived in Limerick, and went to my brother William Meehan, who lives at Drumkeen, in this union, where I remained until after New Year's Day, when I applied, and was admitted an inmate of the Limerick Union. I am still suffering from the pains in my bones, and am treated for them at the hospital of the union workhouse.

2398. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you state that as a case of alleged illegality, or of hardship only?—I conceive it is both.

2399. In what respect does it involve the statement that the removal was against the law?—She was over 20 years in London; 10 years in one parish.

2400. Does it appear that the last ten years of her residence in London were in the same parish?—Yes; and that she was relieved during ten years in the Holborn Union.

2401. She appears from that statement, during ten years to have been frequently relieved in the Holborn Union?—Yes.

2402. But does she anywhere state, in that examination, that she resided in any one parish in that union for the last five years of her residence in London?—I did not ask her that question.

2403. Mr. *Maguire.*] At least you are impressed with the idea that it is a case of very great hardship?—Yes; and she further stated that neither of her children was informed of her removal, and of her being put on board the steamer.

2404. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she state that those children were in good circumstances, or in what circumstances her two children in London were?—One is a servant, and the other an apprentice to a carver and gilder.

2405. Did she say whether they had been in the habit of assisting her?—No; but I should say not.

2406. Did she account for her frequent applications for relief to the Holborn Union, when she had grown up children in London in good circumstances?—The cause of her asking for relief was her illness, pains in her bones; she complained of rheumatic affection.

2407. During the whole of the ten years?—For ten years.

2408. What was her brother?—The brother, a man of the name of Meehan, is a small farmer.

2409. Unable to support her?—Quite so.

2410. *Chairman.*] I dare say you are well aware that by law the period during which a person is receiving relief is to be excluded from the calculation; that is to say, that if she was ten years in one parish, and during the whole time was receiving relief, in point of law it would have the effect of being no residence at all for this purpose?—I am not aware of that.

2411. Mr. *Maguire.*] Does she state that she had been ten years receiving relief?—Yes.

2412. That she had applied from time to time for relief?—Yes; in the Holborn Union.

2413. But not that she had been ten years receiving relief in the Holborn Union?—No; that from time to time, when attacked with this disease, she applied and did get relief until last Christmas, when she was sent over to Ireland. She further states that she wishes to get back to London; we have no power to send her; she also stated that there were several other persons sent with her.

2414. Sir *G. Grey.*] Under orders of removal?—Yes.

2415. Was there anything peculiar in their case?—She knew nothing of them, only that they were sent with her.

2416. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the case of Mary Anne Garry?—I have her statement.

2417. *Chairman.*] You took this from her?—Yes; she is an inmate of the Limerick Union.

2418. Will you read it?—"I was born in London, No. 3, Edmond's-place, City; my mother was born in Ireland, and married in England, and on our applying for relief at St. Luke's workhouse, on the fourth occasion we were all sent, my mother, my sister, and myself, over to Limerick by one of the steamers;

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we were for two months in Limerick supported by my godfather, who was employed at the gas-house, when one bonfire night I was burned in the knee, and sent to Barrington's Hospital, from which place I was removed here, that is, to the workhouse, on the 5th August 1853; my mother called to see me once or twice here, and has now returned to London; my sister is in service in Limerick, and I am left alone here; my father died in London in August 1852, he was a bricklayer; my mother was born in Galway, and all her friends live there;" so that we have got this girl left with us; she does not belong to Limerick any more than to London.

2419. Mr. *Maguire.*] She was born in London?—She was born in London.

2420. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was she removed with her mother?—Yes.

2421. What was her age?—Twelve.

2422. Then she was dependent on her mother at the time of her removal?—I should say so.

2423. And her mother was an Irishwoman?—Yes, she was born in Ireland, but married in England.

2424. Mr. *Maguire.*] You cannot state whether she was dependent on her mother or not?—I only judge of it from her age.

2425. Sir *G. Grey.*] She was in fact removed, not alone, but as one of a family?—Yes, her mother and two children.

2426. What has become of the mother?—She went back again to London, I think.

2427. She has left the children?—She has left the children; one in service, and the other in the workhouse; in this case the mother belonged to Galway.

2428. Is not Limerick the nearest port to the place where the mother was born?—No, Galway itself is a port.

2429. Is Galway one of the ports in Ireland to which the poor-law authorities are at liberty to send paupers?—I am not aware.

2430. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Is not Dublin much more accessible to Galway than to Limerick?—Yes.

2431. Sir *G. Grey.*] The Act of Parliament requires that the poor-law authorities should send the pauper to the one of the ports named in the Schedule to the Act which is nearest to the alleged place of birth?—Dublin would be nearer, I mean, in point of time, and cheaper.

2432. Mr. *Maguire.*] At any rate you are supporting this child, who was born in London, and the child of a mother born in Galway?—Yes.

2433. Sir *G. Grey.*] What is the precise illegality or hardship to which you wish to call the attention of the Committee in that case?—I do not know as to the illegality, but it is a hardship upon the ratepayers of the Limerick Union to be obliged to support a child born in London of parents not belonging to their union at all; the father an Englishman, and the mother a Galway woman.

2434. Does it say that the father was an Englishman?—Yes, she was married in England.

2435. But does it say that the father was an Englishman?—No, it does not state it.

2436. Does it say at what chapel she was married?—No.

2437. What is the name?—Mary Anne Garry.

2438. Is not that an Irish name?—No, it is not an Irish name that I know of, not in our part of the country; it is not a Limerick name certainly.

2439. Is there any reason to suppose that the father was an Englishman?—Nothing more than that she was married in England; I cannot give any other reason than that she was married in England; I know that it is not an Irish name; I have the case of Anne Gray.

2440. Is there anything particular in the case of Anne Gray, to which you wish to call the attention of the Committee?—Nothing more than this, that she was sent from London to Limerick, and that she and her daughter are supported at the expense of the union.

2441. Where was she born?—I think in some part of the county of Limerick, a few miles from Limerick.

2442. Therefore, was not Limerick the only port to which the poor-law authorities here could legally send her?—Yes; but she was in London from 1833 up to that time; she was away from Limerick over 20 years, and she was sent back with her child to Limerick.

2443. Is

2443. Is the fourth of the cases to which you refer, as being now in the workhouse, the child of Anne Gray, removed with her?—Yes.

2444. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the case of Margaret Roach?—She is not at present in the workhouse, but I have her declaration, "Declaration of Margaret Roach, now a pauper inmate of the Limerick Union Workhouse." This was taken on the 24th of February 1851. "I cannot say where I was born, but my parents were Irish. I was left an orphan at an early age, at about five or six years old. I was reared up in London by an aunt until I was nine years of age. I then went into service as childs' maid, and subsequently became a cook. I earned my livelihood as such in the service of several respectable families in London. I was never out of London, save for ten months at Wandsworth, where I was in service. I am the mother of three children, who are with me at present in the Limerick Workhouse; their ages respectively are five, three and one years. I was not married, but I lived and was domesticated with the father of my children in London, about 10 years, up to the month of August 1849, when he emigrated to New York; his name was Andrew Browne; he was a tailor. When leaving London for New York, he told me that if he succeeded in America, he would send for me and my children. I heard once from him since his departure, about the month of November 1849; in that letter he said he was not prospering. I believe he is now dead, as my letters addressed to him have been returned to me from the Dead-letter Office. I was enabled as a laundress to support myself and my children from the time of his leaving me up to the period of my confinement in December 1849, but being then rendered unable to do so any longer, or to incur the expenses attendant on my confinement, I became destitute, and with my two children went into the St. Pancras Workhouse in Middlesex. I was never before in a workhouse. I was confined in St. Pancras on the 6th of December 1849, and in a month afterwards I demanded my discharge from Mr. Eaton, the master, with the intention to earn my livelihood as I did before I went into the workhouse. Mr. Eaton, in reply, told me that it was not in his power to give me a discharge, that I was put down for the removal, and that my case was in the hands of Mr. Hibbard, the pass-master. I was kept in the workhouse 13 months altogether, 12 of which were entirely against my own inclination, as during that period I frequently demanded my discharge from the master, who, upon every such occasion gave me the same answer as he did on my first demand, namely, that he had it not in his power to give me my discharge, that it was Mr. Hibbard who had to do with my case. I was before Mr. Hibbard several times; I went upon every occasion on which I was sent for by him; I could not go to Mr. Hibbard of my own accord unless he sent for me. Upon the first occasion of my going before Mr. Hibbard, I gave him the same statement I have given in this declaration, and demanded from him to give me the usual order to the master to entitle me to my discharge from the workhouse, to earn my livelihood as before. Mr. Hibbard replied, that he would not give me the order, but that he would pass me to Ireland; that his duty was to refuse any order for discharge to all paupers who do not belong to the parish, and instead thereof to pass those not belonging to the parish to where he thought they belonged to. This all occurred on the first occasion of my being brought before Mr. Hibbard. I was taken before Mr. Hibbard several times after; I would say in all, from five to seven times. Upon every such occasion I told Mr. Hibbard all I could recollect of my origin, &c. On one occasion I told him that I had heard my aunt say that I was born in Boston. On these several occasions I demanded from Mr. Hibbard the usual order to the master to entitle me to my discharge, which Mr. Hibbard invariably refused me, adding, that until I gave a more direct statement he would keep me in the house as a punishment, and pass me to Ireland in the end. I asked him, if he was to pass me at all, to pass me to Boston, in America, but that I preferred my discharge to being passed anywhere, when he had told me three or four times (as I now believe) that I should give a more direct statement. I recollected and informed him in the month of May 1850, that if he went to Mrs. Brudenal, of Field-lane, London, her mother, Mrs. M'Carthy, would confirm the statement which I had myself given him. Although I gave Mr. Hibbard this reference in May 1850, he did not go in pursuit or enquire of Mrs. Brudenal or Mrs. M'Carthy, until the close of the month of December 1850. Mrs. Brudenal was sent for then; her statement was drawn up in writing before I came into the vestry-room, and read out for me before Mrs. Brudenal was to swear to its contents, wherein she states that she believes I told her that one of my parents belonged to the

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county of Limerick. Upon my doing so Mr. Hibbard reproved me, and said, 'You must not speak.' Mrs. Brudenal then swore to and signed the statement in presence of two magistrates, who, with Mr. Hibbard, attended for the purpose of the inquiry. In two days after this inquiry I went into the office of Mr. Eaton, the master, and again demanded my discharge; he replied that he had received imperative orders to have a close eye upon me, as I was to be passed to Ireland in a few days; that he was very sorry he could not give me my discharge, but that Mr. Hibbard told him, that if it were to cost 50 *l.* he would pass me to Ireland. In four days after this conversation with Mr. Eaton, Mr. Sadler, the beadle, desired me to be ready in half an hour, that I and my children would be passed to Ireland that day; and accordingly we were sent to the pass-house in Wapping in half an hour after, where we were kept prisoners during 13 days, until a ship was ready; we were then put on board a vessel in St. Catherine's Docks, in London, with several other Irish paupers from different unions, in charge of Mr. Nicholson, pass-officer. We sailed for and arrived at Cork, and thence were brought to Limerick, still in charge of Mr. Nicholson, who handed me two shillings as I was leaving the Kilmallock coach, upon which we travelled to Limerick. Mr. Nicholson told me that I should apply to the Limerick workhouse, and then left me. I have not seen Mr. Nicholson since. I and my children came into the Limerick workhouse in a week after, on the 30th of January last." "(Signed) *Margaret Roach.* Declared and acknowledged before me this 24th day of February 1851, *I. W. Mahony*, J. P."

2445. Sir *G. Grey.*] That was the case of a woman with three illegitimate children removed from Pancras workhouse to Limerick?—Yes.

2446. How long did she stay in the Limerick workhouse with her children?—I cannot say.

2447. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Were the circumstances of that case brought under the attention of the Poor-law Board in Ireland?—I cannot speak to that. I intended to make further inquiry, but I was not able.

2448. Mr. *Maguire.*] At any rate, it was the case of a woman who declared that she was not born in London, was it not?—It was.

2449. And who also declared that she never was in a workhouse before?—Yes.

2450. And that if she were out of the workhouse she would support herself?—Yes.

2451. Do you know the case of Ann Dundon?—Yes; I wish to mention to the Committee that this case was before the Poor-law Board in England:—"I, Ann Dundon, now a pauper in the Limerick Union workhouse, aged upwards of 35, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have been residing for about 17 years in the parish of Marylebone, county of Middlesex, in England, where my children were born; that during that time I never had occasion to apply to the union for relief until during my last confinement, when I was admitted to the Marylebone workhouse. I was in the house about three months with my eldest daughter; when I was well I asked for my discharge and was refused, but the porter of the lodge and an officer, called the pass-master, took us down to a ship about to sail, and, altogether against my will, put us on board, when after eight days we were landed in Limerick, and the captain gave me 4*s.*; I am now left totally destitute and deprived of employment, and must remain a burden on this union, whereas I could, if left in London, support myself and family; and I make this declaration conscientiously, believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the statute." "Taken at the Workhouse, Limerick, 15th February 1854.—*John Stephen Dwyer*, J.P."

2452. Sir *G. Grey.*] How long did she remain in the union?—I have not a return of it; I cannot say.

2453. When was she admitted?—In the month of February last.

2454. And she is not there now?—She is not there now.

2455. Nor her children?—Nor her children.

2456. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Do you know whether she returned to England?—I am not aware; I fancy she did.

2457. The statement is that she had resided 17 years in the parish of Marylebone?—Yes. The guardians thought it a very hard case, and they called the attention of the Poor-law Commissioners in England to it, I think. They wrote to Mr. Russell and to Mr. Monsell on the subject, and the reply from the English Poor-law Board is as follows: "Poor-law Board, Whitehall, 27th March, 1854.

Sir,

Sir, I am directed by the Poor-law Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th ultimo, in which you transmitted to them, by order of the guardians of the Limerick Union, a copy of a declaration made by Ann Dundon, an inmate of the union workhouse, relative to her removal from the parish of St. Marylebone to Limerick. I am directed to state that the Board have made inquiry of the Directors and Guardians of the Poor of the parish of St. Marylebone, respecting the circumstances of this case; and they have received from the directors and guardians an explanation on the subject, of which they now enclose a copy for the information of the Guardians of the Limerick Union."—Signed by Lord Courtenay. This is the explanation :—"To Lord Courtenay, Secretary of the Poor Law Board. My Lord,—I am directed, in answer to your Lordship's communication, dated the 2d instant, enclosing a letter from the Clerk to the Limerick Union, forwarding a copy of a resolution made by an inmate of that union, named Ann Dundon, to state, for the information of the Poor-law Board, that she was admitted to this workhouse, being pregnant, on 4th December 1852. On 11th January 1853 a male child was born, and on the 10th March following she and her child were discharged, refusing to be sent to Ireland. On the 22d April 1853 she was again admitted, the child requiring medical treatment; and upon its recovery, she was discharged on the 9th of June 1853, again refusing to be passed to Ireland. On the 27th of the last-mentioned month (June) she again applied, and was passed on the 9th of July following. Your Lordship will perceive that the pauper has not stated that which was true, in saying that she was admitted to the workhouse with her eldest daughter, as no child has been admitted with her except the male child born in the workhouse on the 11th of January 1853; also, that instead of being on the last occasion three months in this workhouse, she was only 12 days, *i.e.* from the 27th June to the 9th July. The following is an extract from the examination taken upon the occasion of her first application in December 1852 :—'I have never been married. I was born in the county of Limerick, Ireland, and left there about 16 years ago. I never rented a house; I was never in service to gain a settlement, and was never an apprentice. I was lodging at No. 2, Regency-place, Crown-street, Soho, in the parish of St. Ann, Westminster, for two months, and I left there in November 1853.'—I am, &c., *Thomas B. Rae*, Secretary."

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2458. Sir *G. Grey.*] Then assuming that statement to be correct, is not this again the case of a woman with an illegitimate child, of which she was delivered in the workhouse, twice relieved in that workhouse, twice discharged at her own request, and not removed until she had applied again with the same child for relief, and been relieved?—Yes.

2459. And was not she removed upon the examination taken on her first admission to the workhouse?—It appears upon the statement that she was removed against her will.

2460. But having been examined according to law, as to the place of her birth, assuming that to be correct?—Yes.

2461. Mr. *Maguire.*] When the Board of Guardians received that letter from the authorities in England, did they question the woman again?—Yes; she was called before the Board, and an explanation was made to her of the communication from the English board, and she still adhered to the statement which she originally made.

2462. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you record the dates of the admissions of all paupers into the workhouse, in the Limerick Union?—Yes.

2463. And do not you suppose that a record exists of those admissions in the Marylebone Union here?—I should suppose so; the communication states that no child of hers was admitted.

2464. Do you think that the guardians of the Marylebone Union would have made that statement to the Secretary of the Poor-law Board, unless it could have been borne out by the records of their union, as to the three occasions on which this woman had been admitted into the workhouse?—I do not give an opinion upon that at all.

2465. Mr. *Maguire*] As to English paupers, does it ever happen that you have English paupers in the house?—Yes, several.

2466. Have you George Roland in the house at the present moment?—We have.

2467. Will you state what you know about his case?—George Roland, about 50 years of age, an inmate of the Limerick Union for the last seven months, states,

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"I was born in London, Adam and Eve Court, Oxford-street, and am a boot-fitter. I am 49 years old. I came from Liverpool to Dublin, to look for work, about 16 months ago. I got work from a Mr. Hutton, in Dame-street; he sent me to a brother of his, to Bantry, in the county of Cork, to work for him. I was five months in Bantry, when I got paralysed. I came from Bantry to Cork, and from Cork to Limerick, expecting to meet some countrymen of mine there. I got quite knocked up in Limerick, and was obliged to come into this workhouse. I am not well yet, but would wish to return home to England and die in my native place, London."

2468. Sir *G. Grey.*] He says that he came from Cork to Limerick to find some countrymen of his own?—Yes.

2469. Does he account for not having gone from Cork to London?—He had not the means.

2470. How did he get from Cork to Limerick?—He walked, I fancy.

2471. You did not ask him?—I do not think I did; I have no recollection of asking him.

2472. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you any power to send Roland out of your union workhouse?—No.

2473. You have no power of sending him over to England?—Not at all; if he was destitute it was our duty to relieve him.

2474. And as long as he wishes to remain there you must support him?—We must.

2475. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is he paralysed?—Yes; he is recovering; he is somewhat better.

2476. Did not you ask him how he contrived, having become paralysed in Bantry, to walk, as you suppose he did, from Bantry to Cork and from Cork to Limerick?—I think his wages enabled him to come to Cork from Bantry, and I think he told me (I am not certain) how he got to Limerick from Cork; I think he told me that he walked part of the way.

2477. Mr. *Maguire.*] Might not he have come through Kerry?—Kerry would be rather roundabout.

2478. Have you the case of a Mrs. Wall?—Yes.

2479. Is she an Englishwoman?—Yes; this is a very hard case on the rate-payers of the Limerick Union. She was admitted on the 6th or 7th of February last; she was born in England, and married to George Wall, an Excise officer; her former name was Elizabeth East; she says, "We came to Limerick about six years ago. My husband died in Limerick, and although I have an annuity of 30 *l.* a year, I was compelled, with my five children, to seek admission to the workhouse." It is right to mention that she cannot anticipate the annuity in any way; her father's will is so framed, that if she anticipated it in any way it would cease altogether. "I think it would be very hard for me to pay for my support and family any more than any other pauper; I won't pay for my support here any more than anybody else;" I asked her whether she would pay for her support when she got her annuity, and she said she would not.

2480. Sir *G. Grey.*] Who receives the annuity while she is in the workhouse?—Any portion of it has not become due since she has been admitted; the moment she gets it, of course, she must leave.

2481. Was her husband an Irishman or an Englishmen?—An Englishman, an Excise officer.

2482. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is she also an Englishwoman?—Yes, with five children.

2483. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you mean that it is a case of mere temporary destitution between one quarter and another, and that it will cease when the quarter's payment of the annuity becomes due?—It will cease while the annuity lasts, but she is a very improvident woman, and the chances are that she will spend it in a week, and be back again.

2484. Mr. *Maguire.*] And you cannot refuse admitting her again?—No.

2485. And you cannot send her back to England?—No.

2486. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Cannot you serve a notice that the annuity shall be paid to the Board of Guardians for her support?—No; we applied to the Poor-law Commissioners, and took the opinion of counsel upon the subject, to see if we could not oblige her to apply the annuity in paying for the support of herself and her children, but we found we could not. The will is so framed by her father that if she in any way anticipated it, it would cease altogether.

2487. Sir

2487. Sir *G. Grey.*] That rather secures the quarterly payments of the annuity?—It does.

2488. Have you tried whether you can get hold of those payments to pay the expense of her maintenance in the workhouse?—If there was any way we would do so.

2489. *Chairman.*] There is no provision in the Irish Poor-law with reference to that?—No; the only way would be to sue her for the value of her support whilst she was in the house, but then the same evil would arise.

2490. Sir *G. Grey.*] How long has she been in the workhouse?—Since the 6th or 7th of February last.

2491. Has not a payment of the annuity become due since that?—It is a half-yearly payment, and will become due in July. If we sue her in the county court, of course we shall be able to get a decree against her for the value of her support whilst in the house, but all we can do is to take her person, and put her into gaol, and she must be supported there by the ratepayers also.

2492. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the case of a woman of the name of Margaret Broderich now in your workhouse?—I have.

2493. Is she an Englishwoman?—She is; she is aged 20 years; she states, "I was born in Blackburn, Lancashire."

2494. Sir *G. Grey.*] Does she state what her parents were?—No; she came to Ireland about three years ago with some regiment; she states herself that she followed the soldiers of the 52d. She came to Limerick, and we have been supporting her. She was twice admitted an inmate; she is now in the house sick.

2495. Mr. *Maguire.*] You cannot remove her?—We cannot.

2496. Are there any other cases which you think it advisable to bring before the Committee?—I do not know whether I have any other cases.

2497. Sir *G. Grey.*] How many persons do you suppose arrived in Limerick in the course of last year, under orders of removal from this country?—I should say from 40 to 50.

2498. Of those how many became chargeable to the Limerick Union?—As well as I have been able to make out, somewhere about 20.

2499. For what length of time did they, upon the average, remain chargeable, as there are only four now left?—It is very hard to state that; we have one for a fortnight, another for a month, another for two months; Ann Gray has been there since the 6th of March last.

2500. Mr. *Maguire.*] Limerick is not opposite England; it is on the other side?—It is not; but it is as well to mention that paupers going to other unions, for instance, the Union of Nenagh, and the Union of Rathkeale, and places in the country, when landed at Limerick, get temporary relief at the Limerick workhouse.

2501. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Are there paupers sent to you from any port except London?—I am not aware that there are.

2502. Mr. *Maguire.*] Will you give the Committee some information as to the prospects of employment of labour, so far as you know?—There is work now in the neighbourhood of Limerick for all able-bodied men.

2503. When you speak of the neighbourhood, how many miles do you mean?—I speak of a circuit of 10 miles.

2504. Is the rate of wages increasing?—Yes.

2505. I believe it ranged from 6*d.* to 8*d.* some short time since?—The farmers generally paid 8*d.* a day some few years ago, and now they are obliged to pay a shilling, and some up to 1*s.* 6*d.*

2506. Have you heard of instances from the rural guardians where farmers are obliged to pay a shilling a day, with food?—Yes.

2507. And that 1*s.* 6*d.* is now no extraordinary price for wages?—It is the general price in some parts.

2508. Sir *G. Grey.*] What do they pay to able-bodied women for agricultural work?—There is very little employment for persons brought up in the workhouse.

2509. I am not speaking of that; but quite irrespectively of the workhouse, what are the daily wages for able-bodied women in agricultural labour?—From 6*d.* to 8*d.* a day; but they are generally employed by the quarter, for three months, with food and lodging.

2510. Would it be easy for any able-bodied woman arriving in Limerick to obtain employment in the neighbourhood at those wages?—No, she could not get employment there.

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2511. The state of the labour market, then, does not afford any facility for women to obtain agricultural employment?—None; at present the greater number of inmates in the house are able-bodied women, and there is no employment for them.

2512. Is it not the custom to employ women for agricultural labour in that part of Ireland?—It is; but those brought up in the workhouse, and not instructed in agricultural pursuits, are reckoned not fit.

2513. I said nothing about women brought up in the workhouse; what I asked was, whether an able-bodied woman arriving from another part of the country in the Limerick Union could find agricultural employment at fair wages without applying to the workhouse at all?—I think she might.

2514. Mr. *J. Ball.*] If used to labour in agriculture?—Yes, if she understood it.

2515. Sir *J. Young.*] Is it not the case that in the Limerick workhouse there has been an accumulation of girls who have lived in the workhouse for a long time?—Yes.

2516. Have you compared it with other unions in Ireland?—I have not; the number brought up in the house is very great, and they are fit for nothing; up to a recent period the guardians were not permitted to employ the grown-up girls in the workhouse, but now we do employ them in needlework, shirt making and embroidery, and, according as they grow up now, they are taken out into different establishments, being instructed.

2517. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Do you mean by that statement that you were not permitted, or that the employment of the girls in works for sale was discouraged?—I am speaking now of a period before I was a guardian, but I understood it was not the practice some eight or ten years ago for the girls, who came in at eight or ten years of age, to be employed, and I understood the reason to be that the Commissioners prohibited the employment of those girls at any work which would interfere with the market outside.

2518. Are you aware that Mr. Hancock, who was for several years the inspector of that district, was very active in endeavouring to induce the guardians to provide employment for the girls, though not employment in work for sale?—I am not aware; I was not a guardian at that time.

2519. Sir *J. Young.*] Do they now employ the girls in sewing and embroidering?—Yes, 400 are at work every day; they are being taught.

2520. When those girls have made a certain degree of progress, are they or are they not able to support themselves out of the workhouse?—Yes, the establishments outside, we understand, are very glad to get them.

2521. Sir *G. Grey.*] Then there is a facility for girls, even brought up in the workhouse, to obtain employment out of doors?—Yes, for those instructed in the workhouse.

2522. How many girls do you discharge in the year?—It fluctuates. When the parents go out, of course the children go with them; they may be in for two or three months, and then out for two or three more, and back again.

2523. Are those 400 girls, of whom you speak as being now in the workhouse, orphans?—There are more than 400, but there are 400 employed at shirt making and embroidery.

2524. Are these 400, who are employed as you have described in the workhouse, members of families, their parents being in the workhouse, or are they orphans?—The greater number are orphans.

2525. What prospect is there of their obtaining employment outside?—The employers outside will give them employment the moment they are able to earn anything to support themselves.

2526. Is the number gradually diminishing?—Yes; the last month there has been a diminution in the number of girls of over 100.

2527. Have any been sent to Australia from your union workhouse?—There were, about two or three years ago, 30 of them.

2528. Sir *J. Young.*] Is it within your knowledge that the demand for girls to be employed in embroidering has received a great stimulus, within the last two or three years, in Ireland?—I cannot say so much of embroidery, but for plain work, shirt making, it has.

2529. Generally the use of the needle?—Yes.

2530. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Can you state about what number of able-bodied men there

there are in the Limerick Union Workhouse at present?—I do not think there are more than 20 able-bodied men.

2531. Out of upwards of 3,000 inmates?—Yes, I do not think there are upwards of 50 able-bodied.

2532. Sir *G. Grey.*] How is it that there are any able-bodied men kept in the workhouse if there is such a demand for employment, and if there are good wages outside?—From accident, illness, or one thing or another they get in, and then we do not discharge them until they are fully recovered.

2533. Do you mean that these men are not in a condition to resume their work?—Yes, the greater part of them.

2534. Have you any able-bodied men who are fully able to work who are allowed to remain in the workhouse?—The guardians do all they can to prevent such remaining, but I think there are some in the house notwithstanding the vigilance of the guardians.

2535. They prefer the workhouse to labour out of doors?—Some do.

2536. Then you do not think that the workhouse test is a complete security against parties applying for relief?—Generally it is, but there are exceptional cases.

2537. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are not those very rare instances?—Very rare.

2538. Does it not generally happen that it is only in the case where a man is broken down by misfortune and ill health that he desires to remain in the workhouse?—Yes; he comes in, and when he is in, unless you can get employment for him you cannot put him out.

2539. As to the effect of industrial education upon the young girls, do you not find that the very moment they have made any kind of progress they are anxious to go out of the workhouse?—Yes; the parties outside are anxious to get them.

2540. Are you aware that they themselves have a great desire to free themselves from what they consider the degradation of the workhouse?—Yes, the class who have been instructed.

2541. And one of the best means of gradually ridding the workhouse of those young people is by educating them?—One of the best means.

2542. Speaking of agricultural employment, is there any apprehension amongst any of the rural guardians that hands will eventually, before any long time, be deficient?—Yes, there is great fear that labour will come short through the great emigration.

2543. You have no fear, from a knowledge of your own neighbourhood, that there is any reason to dread a pauper emigration from Ireland to England?—Not the slightest.

2544. Sir *G. Grey.*] Have many of the labouring population emigrated from Limerick, and its neighbourhood, within the last twelve months?—Yes; a great number.

2545. Have many gone to England?—I should say none have gone to England, unless going to Liverpool on their way to America. The emigration has been either to Australia or America; parties who have gone out of this country for Australia, have sent funds to their friends, or orders for paying their passage out, and from America in the same way, numbers of them every day receive orders; so that the emigration is so great now, that sufficient vessels cannot be got at Limerick to convey them.

2546. To what do you attribute that stream of emigration, while wages are rising rapidly, as you state them to be?—To the fact of their friends having gone, and they are anxious to go out to join them.

2547. Do you think that the rate of wages will rise to a sufficient height to induce the labouring able-bodied people to remain at home?—I am quite satisfied that, in harvest, the general rate of wages in the country will be from 2 *s.* to 2 *s.* 6 *d.* a day.

2548. What has been the general rate of wages in harvest in former years?—I suppose 1 *s.* 6 *d.*

2549. Do many people go from that part of the country to England for the harvest?—None from that part at all.

2550. Did they formerly?—Never from that part of the country.

2551. Mr. *Maguire.*] What class of persons are now going from that part of the country to America?—The small farming class and the labouring class.

2552. Do you think that emigration is likely to be materially diminished?—No, I think emigration is certainly on the increase this year.

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2553. Is not the passage money much dearer now than it was 12 months ago?—The people themselves could not afford to leave, but their friends in America and Australia pay the cost of bringing them out.

2554. Are there also many of the peasant class leaving?—Yes; the country is in fact becoming depopulated.

2555. Sir *G. Grey.*] Are there any competitors for their farms when they leave; does the landlord find a difficulty in getting a tenant?—No, he does not; some years ago he did. In the case of labouring farmers the landlord is generally increasing the extent of the farms; they were formerly only four, six, or ten acres, but now no landlord in the neighbourhood would wish to set a farm under from 20 to 50 acres.

2556. And do those farmers who occupy a greater amount of land give better wages than the small ones used to do if they employ any labourers?—They do; they are obliged to do it, or they would not get the men.

2557. Then that is generally for the benefit of the country?—Yes.

2558. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the feeling entertained towards the present law of removal in your union?—It is quite detested, the English Boards of Guardians having the power of sending over paupers to Ireland, and the Boards in Ireland not having the same power.

2559. If the law of removal were done away with in this country as between parish and parish, and preserved as between England and Ireland, what would be the feeling generally about it; would it be very strong?—Very strong; it would be a feeling of great injustice.

2560. Gross injustice?—Gross injustice.

2561. Will you put yourself in the position of an English ratepayer, and give a conscientious answer to the Committee; if the law of removal were done away with, would you have any fear, from your knowledge of the country, that there would be a large number of Irish poor going over to England?—No fear whatever; I am quite satisfied if they were able to leave the country at all, it is not to England that they would go.

Francis Devereux, Esq., called in, and Examined.

F. Devereux, Esq.

2562. Mr. *Maguire.*] YOU are Chairman of the Waterford Board of Guardians?—I am.

2563. How long have you been connected with that Board?—About two years; I have no case that raises any question of illegality of removal; as the parties have been landed upon the Waterford quay, we have merely noted the fact; we do not fancy that we have any mode of redress, and did not inquire particularly into the circumstances of each case as it occurred; however, a few cases lately did occur that certainly show great hardship to the poor in the mode of the removal; to one of them I called the attention of the Poor-law Commissioners of England, through Mr. Meagher, the Member for Waterford; that is the case of a woman named Hays; she, her child, and four or five others were put on board a collier, and I believe that is the usual mode of removing paupers from Wales to Waterford.

2564. Sir *G. Grey.*] From what place was she removed?—Newport; they were put on board a collier, and I would wish to call the attention of the Committee to the regulations of the Monmouthshire magistrates, as to the mode of removing parties; they only allow 4*s.* 2*d.* to Waterford and to Cork, as the expense of removing a pauper.

2565. Do you mean including the passage?—Including the passage; they allow 10*s.* to Dublin and the other ports; they pay generally 2*s.* 6*d.* to the master of the collier for taking the parties over, and then they give them 1*s.* 8*d.* worth of bread, or some description of food.

2566. *Chairman.*] From which part chiefly do they come to Waterford?—They come principally from Wales; from Newport and from Cardiff.

2567. Do many Bristol people come?—Not many; those coming from Bristol come by steamer; those coming from Wales come by colliers. They get the 1*s.* 8*d.* worth of bread as I have mentioned, and I have made inquiries in Waterford of some persons who are connected with those collier boats, and they tell me that it is not unusual when a collier puts out, if she meets with adverse wind of any kind, to put back again to any port most convenient, very generally not

not the port she starts from, so that there are sometimes twelve or fourteen days from the time those people are put on board with 1*s.* 8*d.* worth of food till they are landed in Waterford. Hays and her party were twelve days out. The vessel was bound for Cork; it was to Cork that the order of removal was made; I examined them myself very particularly, and they all represented to me, and told the same story, that they were without food for a couple of days.

2568. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you know that they were actually brought to Waterford?—They were actually brought to Waterford, although bound to Cork; they were without food for a couple of days; they were even without water; and they said that the captain was drunk the whole time, and treated them very badly. He saw that he was running short of provisions himself, and seeing those people starving on board he had the humanity to put them on shore at the nearest port of Ireland to him, and the first place he could put into was Waterford, and he landed them at Waterford. Three or four of them, I think, came into the Waterford poorhouse; the others of them (I forget exactly the number, but there were a few others) found their way up the country to the county of Cork, of which they were natives.

2569. Do many persons come to Waterford from any port of England under orders of removal during the course of the year?—There were 40 for the year ending last Lady-day removed from England, and applied for relief in Waterford.

2570. Can you tell where they came from?—They were principally from Wales and from Bristol; nearly all from Wales.

2571. Of those do you know how many came in colliers?—I am not prepared to say exactly how many, but I have been informed that it is the general mode of sending them from Wales to Waterford.

2572. Of those 40, some you say came from Bristol; they probably would not come in colliers?—Those came by steamer.

2573. You do not know what proportion of them came from Bristol, and what from Cardiff, or Newport?—No, except that I know that a considerable majority of them did come from Wales.

2574. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did you remark anything particular with respect to Mary Hays; was she in a condition to be sent on board a vessel?—When she was in the room, we were under the impression that she was in a very advanced stage of pregnancy; however, she remained in the house for six or seven weeks, and then went away, and she was not delivered of a child during that time; so that I suppose we were mistaken. Her story was, that her husband had left her about nine months before, and that he had gone to America; that she was expecting a letter from him, and that she was able to support herself and her child in Newport; that the child got ill and she was obliged to go to the poorhouse, and that they immediately sent her off. She seemed to be particularly pained at the idea of expecting a letter from the husband for her in Newport, and that she was removed from the possibility or the probability of getting it.

2575. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was she an Irish woman?—She was a Cork woman.

2576. Did she say how long she and her husband had been in Wales?—Yes; she said he had been some years in Wales, working there. In examining the paupers I have found it very hard to get them to understand what you mean when you ask how long they have been in a particular parish, and it is not at all easy to get a consistent story from them.

2577. Mr. *Maguire.*] When you say that 40 arrived up to March 1854, do you mean that 40 got relief in the workhouse?—Yes.

2578. How many have been landed in the year, either from colliers or steamers from Waterford, under orders of removal?—I cannot say that; I can only speak of the 40 that came under my own notice.

2579. Have you any idea how many?—I believe there are a great many, quite as many, at all events, if not a great many more, who are landed and push their way on to wherever they may be natives of.

2580. Have you heard, from any inquiries which you have made on that subject, that 200 or 300 is about the average number?—I cannot say.

2581. *Chairman.*] You have no accurate knowledge?—I have no accurate knowledge whatever.

2582. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is there any regular steam communication between Waterford and Bristol?—There is.

2583. Do many people leave Waterford as deck-passengers to go to Bristol?—No,

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—No, I think not; a good many leave Waterford as deck-passengers to go to Liverpool for emigration purposes, and otherwise.

2584. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the deck fare between Waterford and Liverpool?—I think it is 7 *s.*

2585. *Chairman.*] Is there any steam communication at all between Waterford and South Wales?—No; there is no steam communication from Waterford, except to Dublin, Liverpool, and Bristol.

2586. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you any English people in your house?—The clerk of the union returned me a list of 17 English people who had been relieved in the house within the last year or so.

2587. Sir *G. Grey.*] What sort of people were the English people?—I have nothing more to state than that they were English people. I have myself conversed with some of them.

2588. People born in England?—People born in England; one of them was a sailor, I think; I do not know exactly what the others were.

2589. Were they grown-up people, or children born in England who had been removed with their parents, or had gone into the workhouse with their parents?—They had not come into the workhouse with their parents, or anything of that sort; they were people that had turned up in Waterford in some way or another, and had come and asked for relief; grown-up people.

2590. Seafaring people?—Some of them.

2591. *Chairman.*] You say that you got that information from the clerk of the union?—Yes.

2592. Sir *G. Grey.*] Will you give a general description of the people, whether they were men, women, or children?—There were James Manning, aged 17, and Edward Collins, two boys from Liverpool.

2593. What had they been?—I cannot say what they were; there were some women too; there were 17 English people there.

2594. Are they now in the workhouse?—No.

2595. How long did they remain there?—They did not remain very long.

2596. They merely applied for temporary relief?—They came in and stayed perhaps a fortnight or three weeks, or so, and went away; I do not think any of them are still in the workhouse.

2597. Do you know whether they went back to England?—I suppose they went back to England.

2598. Mr. *Maguire.*] Will you mention any cases which you wish to bring before the attention of the Committee?—Some parties came for relief, and were relieved in Waterford, who had been removed under orders of removal to Cork; they were natives of Dublin.

2599. Sir *G. Grey.*] In addition to the case of Hayes which you mentioned?—There was another party who were landed in Cork under orders of removal; they were natives of Dublin, and on their way from Cork to Dublin; they were relieved by us; they were landed at the wrong port.

2600. They ought to have been landed at Dublin instead of Cork?—They ought. I apprehend that the low price which the magistrates put upon the orders of removal to Waterford and Cork is calculated to throw them very much upon Cork and Waterford.

2601. How were they removed?—I do not know.

2602. Is the passage-money from Bristol to Cork very different from what it is from Bristol to Dublin?—I stated a few minutes ago that the Monmouthshire magistrates allow 4 *s.* 2 *d.* to the ports of Cork and Waterford, and 10 *s.* to all other Irish ports.

2603. Were these people removed then from either Cardiff or Newport?—That I am not able to say, but I should not wonder if the same rule would apply down the western coast of England.

2604. Is it your opinion that the cause of those paupers being removed to Cork instead of Dublin was, that they could be removed more cheaply to Cork than to Dublin?—I cannot give that opinion, but I merely say that it would increase the probabilities of parties being sent to Cork and Waterford.

2605. And it would be, as you are aware, a violation of the law, which requires that the pauper shall be sent to the port nearest to the place of his birth?—Yes, I am quite aware of that; the declaration which this class of people whom I have examined myself make, I attach very little value to; they really do not understand what they are signing their names to.

2606. Mr. *Maguire.*] You do not mean to give that as a general description of all the paupers?—Of a great many of them; they are very wretched creatures.

2607. But do not you find that some of them are very intelligent people, who give a very clear statement?—Some of them do.

2608. You have stated the price allowed by the magistrates in Monmouthshire to Cork; do you know what is the fare from Bristol to Cork on the deck of a steamer?—I do not.

2609. They could not be sent over for so small a sum as you mention, unless by colliers; do you know anything about it?—I know nothing about the fare from Bristol.

2610. Have you any cases to mention involving hardship, where persons have been sent from this country?—In those 40 cases I referred to, all the parties represented themselves as having lived for a great many years in England.

2611. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was it the wish then of those parties to go back to England?—No, I cannot say that.

2612. They did not express any desire to that effect?—No, but they stated that they were removed against their will.

2613. Mr. *Maguire.*] That would imply a desire to go back?—Mary Hayes was very anxious to get back.

2614. Speaking of employment, is employment increasing in your part of the country?—Yes, the rate of wages has increased.

2615. Has it increased continually?—When I first went to reside where I now reside, about two and a half years ago, the rate of wages was 9*d.*; it is now 1*s.*

2616. Sir *G. Grey.*] How far is that from Waterford?—About five miles; it is rather a rural district.

2617. Mr. *Maguire.*] Has it increased in any other of the districts?—I am aware that within about the same distance of Kilkenny it has increased in about the same proportion; the farmers who feed their labourers are giving 3*s.* a week with food, which has been paid for the last six months, more than 6*s.* a week without food.

2618. As to emigration, is the emigration still going on from that port?—Yes, the emigration is increasing very much; it is increasing upon what it was this time 12 months; it is not increasing upon what it was two years ago.

2619. What class of persons are going?—Labourers, and the sons and daughters of the farmers.

2620. The children of the small farmers, who worked the farms for their parents before?—Yes.

2621. Is there likely to be a dearth of labour in any parts of the country?—I hear a great many persons saying that they apprehend that it will not be very easy to get labourers for the harvest.

2622. At any rate it is likely that there will be in a short time sufficient employment for the labourers of the country?—I think so; for the able-bodied labourers, I think, there is no want of employment; Mr. Dargan in Waterford advertised the other day for more than 300 men, and I understand that he has got very few.

2623. What wages does he pay?—I believe he pays 9*s.* a week, but he requires very hard labour.

2624. Do you know of your own knowledge whether many destitute persons go from Waterford to England?—I do not know of my own knowledge of any; there may be.

2625. If you were an Englishman, would you have any fear of a large number of people leaving Ireland?—With respect to the able-bodied paupers, I think we have quite enough of employment in the country to absorb all the labour of the able-bodied paupers there. I think there need be no apprehension whatever with regard to them. There are very few of them in the workhouses; and in fact, in this season of the year we scarcely admit them into the workhouse. I have frequently refused them admission on the ground that they could not be destitute where there was so much labour to be had, and at a fair rate of wages. But the able-bodied women are exceedingly numerous, and I do not know what we are to do with them.

2626. Have not those, generally speaking, grown up in the workhouse?—A great many of them have.

2627. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are not many of them widows, and remnants of families who died during the famine?—Yes.

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2628. Sir *G. Grey.*] And it is not easy for them to get employment in that part of the country?—No, it is not. There are great numbers of them in the poor-house.

2629. Have they most of them children?—There are a great many of them single; they belong to families who have emigrated to America, who have not been able to take out all their children at once, and they leave them to be provided for in the workhouse till they can send for them. A great many of them are circumstanced in that way, and a great many are orphans.

2630. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are there not many instances in which persons who have been obliged to seek the shelter of the workhouse have been sent for?—Yes, every week.

2631. And do you calculate that you will be relieved of that number who are now a burthen to you, by their friends sending for them?—Yes, there are a great many of them who will be sent for.

2632. What is the feeling entertained towards the law of removal in your union?—There is a very strong feeling against it.

2633. If it were done away with in this country, and retained as far as Ireland is regarded, what would be the feeling?—It would be looked upon as great partiality; very partial legislation.

2634. *Chairman.*] Have you any other suggestions to make?—No, I cannot say that I have.

Jovis, 1° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Sir George Grey.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Mr. John Ball.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Maguire.
Sir John Young.	

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

William M'Gee, Esq., M.D., called in; and Examined.

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2635. ARE you a member of the Board of Guardians of the Belfast Union?—I am.

2636. How long have you been upon that Board?—Upwards of 11 years.

2637. You held a situation also under the Municipal Corporation Act last year in Belfast, I believe?—I was mayor of Belfast in the year 1853.

2638. Has your attention as a guardian in Belfast been particularly directed to the question of poor removal, at present under investigation by the Committee?—It has, almost immediately from my becoming a guardian.

2639. *Chairman.*] Down to this time?—Down to this time.

2640. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Has there been any petition lately presented from the Belfast Board of Guardians on this subject to the House?—There was a petition forwarded to Mr. Davison for presentation, and I believe it was presented. I have a copy of it here.

2641. Will you read that petition?—"To the Right Honourable and Honourable the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of the Commons House in Parliament assembled: The Petition of the Poor-law Guardians of the Belfast Poor-law Union, Humbly sheweth, That a Bill is now before your Honourable House, intituled, 'A Bill to abolish in England and Wales the Compulsory Removal of the Poor on the ground of Settlement, and to make Provision for the more Equitable Distribution of the Charge of Relief in Unions.' That your petitioners have had frequent occasions

occasions to complain that the laws of settlement and of removal are very objectionable, inasmuch as they prevent the poor man from offering his labour in the best market. That especially the Scotch law of removal, 8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, is harsh in its provisions and harshly administered. That under its powers, sections 77, 78, and 79, poverty and sickness are rendered a misdemeanour and a crime. That in England and Scotland a settlement is acquired with difficulty, and is easily lost. That in Scotland dispensary or hospital medical aid afforded to any pauper of Irish birth, or to any member of his family, is deemed to be relief, rendering such family instantly removable to Ireland. Your petitioners, considering it no more than justice that the country which has enjoyed the benefits of the poor man's labour should bear the cost of his support when in sickness or distress, complain, that after the labourer or artisan has spent much of his life in Great Britain, supporting himself by his industry, if in sickness or poverty he shall apply for relief, and if he have not acquired and retained a settlement, he and his family, even though such family be of English or Scottish birth, are removed to Ireland, not to the place of his birth, but to the seaport nearest to the place whence removed. That your petitioners have heretofore made several ineffectual efforts to obtain even a partial relief from the premises; so that any person who had supported himself industriously in England or Scotland for five years, though not continuously in one parish or combination, should not be removable therefrom. That medical relief should not be deemed relief, subjecting the recipient to be removed under the operation of the poor laws; and that when any poor person became legally removable to Ireland from England or Scotland, he should be conveyed at the cost of the district from whence removed to the place of his birth, and not be abandoned, as was the custom, at the Irish seaport nearest to Great Britain. That your petitioners observing that a Bill was about to be brought before your Honourable House for the repeal of the laws of settlement, hailed the announcement of the measure as one highly beneficial, and calculated to remove their just grounds of complaint. Petitioners now learn with great regret, that it is not intended at present to extend to Ireland and Scotland the provisions of the proposed Bill. In conclusion, your petitioners pray that your Honourable House will, as the only effectual means of removing the evils arising from the present state of the laws relating to the poor, be pleased totally and entirely to repeal the laws of settlement and removal, and will afford to the petitioners an opportunity of substantiating before a Committee of your Honourable House the correctness of the aforesaid allegations. And petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray. Signed on behalf of the Board of Guardians, Belfast Union, *Richard B. B. Houston*, Chairman."

2642. Do you agree generally with the terms of that petition?—I do. Perhaps when we say "nearest," "most convenient," would be a better term in speaking of the ports nearest to England and Scotland.

2643. *Chairman.*] With that verbal alteration you concur in the petition?—I do.

2644. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Upon what ground do you propose to say, that the present laws of settlement and removal are very objectionable?—They prevent the poor man from taking his labour to the best market. The law as regards Scotland is especially objectionable, for if any person be removed under a removal order, against which order it must be remembered there is no appeal, should he return and become again chargeable in the same parish or combination, in Scotland, he is liable to be punished under a particular provision in the Scotch Act, section 79, which recites that under the provisions of an Act of the Scottish Parliament of 1579 he is liable to be punished as a vagabond, by imprisonment, for any term not exceeding two months.

2645. That is in case of his returning to a parish or combination in which he has been once relieved, and from which he has been removed to England or Ireland, and becoming again chargeable?—Yes.

2646. Mr. *Maguire.*] Suppose a man in Scotland having suffered from an accident or temporary illness, or want of employment, applies for relief to a parish and is removed, he not having a settlement in Scotland, to Ireland; suppose that person goes back to Scotland with the *bonâ fide* intention of earning his bread by his industry, and he fails in it, do you mean to say, that in that case he is liable to be punished in case he becomes again chargeable?—It is still stronger; it is if he receive relief by himself or his family.

2647. Sir *G. Grey.*] But are you not aware that in the 77th section of the Act

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of the 8th & 9th Vict., to which you have referred, there is this proviso, "That no person shall be so removed" from Scotland "until there has been obtained a certificate on soul and conscience by a regular medical practitioner, setting forth that the health of such person, his wife and children, as aforesaid, is such as to admit of such removal;" therefore you do not mean the Committee to understand that persons applying for relief on the ground of sickness or accident would be liable to be removed under that law to Ireland?—I mean that if they become chargeable, from whatever cause, and if they have not obtained a settlement, they are liable to be removed.

2648. But can they, under that law, be removed, if from sickness or accident they are not in a fit state to be removed?—There might be a difference of opinion as to their fitness. I do not mean to say that it is so, although I will quote some cases if called upon to do so.

2649. Is not the fitness required to be ascertained by that section by a certificate "on soul and conscience," as the terms are, "by a regular medical practitioner"?—It is so; but I am speaking of the results that will ensue to the poor man if he return and meet with an accident, though he go back with the intention of labouring, and perfectly able to labour.

2650. But, in the first instance, you admit the construction of that Act to be, that during sickness no Irish pauper could be legally removed from Scotland to Ireland?—No Irish pauper could be legally removed under those circumstances. The clause to which I refer is: "Be it enacted, that if any person who has been removed to England or Ireland or the Isle of Man, from any parish or combination in Scotland, under any order of removal,"—now I pause to say that there is no appeal from the order of removal,—"shall afterwards return to Scotland, and apply for relief, or again become chargeable, by himself or his family, to the same parish or combination, without having obtained a settlement therein, such person shall be deemed to be a vagabond, under the provisions of an Act of the Scottish Parliament, passed in the year 1579, intituled, 'An Act for Punishment of strang and idle Beggars, and Reliefe of the pure and impotent,' and may be apprehended and prosecuted criminally before the sheriff of the county in which such parish, or any portion thereof, is situate, at the instance of the inspector of the poor of the parish to which he shall have so applied for relief or become chargeable, and shall upon conviction be punishable by imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for such a period as the said sheriff shall think proper, not exceeding two months."

2651. *Chairman.*] That is section 79?—Yes.

2652. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Are the principal removals to Belfast from England or from Scotland?—The great proportion from Scotland.

2653. Much the larger proportion?—Till the 25th of March 1854, the proportion was one-eleventh from England to Belfast; but in the two months ending the 25th of May, the proportion has been one out of three. I may mention, as I have quoted the proportion of removals, that the actual number was 93 in the two months, from the 25th of March to the 25th of May in this year.

2654. Colonel *Blair.*] From England?—From England and Scotland.

2655. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Do you know what number were removed from England and Scotland in the year ending the 25th of March 1854, who came into your workhouse?—There was a great number of people removed, or who stated that they were removed, who did not come into our workhouse.

2656. Sir *G. Grey.*] Who did not, in fact, become chargeable to the Belfast Union?—Who did not become chargeable upon our rates. The number who became chargeable was 191 in the 12 months ending the 25th of March 1854.

2657. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Are we to understand you that 1 in 11 of those 191 persons came from England, and the remainder from Scotland?—Yes, as nearly as possible.

2658. And in the last two months, about one-third of the 93 came from England, and the remainder from Scotland?—Yes.

2659. From what port in England do they generally come?—Chiefly from Liverpool; perhaps some from Whitehaven, but I will not be certain about that.

2660. Colonel *Blair.*] Can you mention the ports in Scotland that they come from in general?—Almost entirely from Glasgow; they have shipped some from Ardrossan.

2661. None from Stranraer?—We have one rather curious case from Stranraer, the

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the case of Stuart; but they are chiefly from Glasgow, either leaving Glasgow, or being forwarded on to Ardrossan.

2662. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What class of persons were these generally; were they able-bodied, or young?—All classes; young and old.

2663. Sir *G. Grey.*] Were there any able-bodied men among them?—Certainly.

2664. Single men, or men with families?—Men with families.

2665. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you any instances which you would name of paupers being removed to Ireland after a long residence in England or Scotland?—Yes.

2666. *Chairman.*] Where do you get those cases from?—The first case I took myself.

2667. From the pauper?—From the pauper herself; the statement of Rose Ann Cooney.

2668. When was that?—I took it within this last week; she was admitted on the 18th of March 1854.

2669. Will you read it?—"Rose Ann Cooney says she is a native of Belfast; that she was admitted into the Belfast Union Workhouse, having been sent from Glasgow, together with her two children, by the authorities of that city; that she resided 17 years in one street, the Gallowgate, where her children, three in number, were born, and where one of them died; states that her husband having enlisted, she went to the town-house for relief, and she was sent off the same day to Belfast; got four loaves of bread, but did not get a removal ticket. Her mother and sister, also all her relatives, now live in Glasgow, and did not know where she was till she wrote to them. Is still in Belfast Workhouse, this 26th May 1854."

2670. Colonel *Blair.*] Did she state in what regiment her husband enlisted?—She did not; I hoped that Colonel Clarke, who is the only person having power to take evidence on oath, would have got the particulars of this case.

2671. *Chairman.*] What is Colonel Clarke?—He is our inspector; I think he had got notes of it.

2672. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is it the usual practice for these people to bring removal tickets with them when removed from Scotland?—They present them to the relieving officer.

2673. In Ireland?—In Ireland; and if they be sent over in charge of a constable, or other of the Scotch authorities, he hands the removal ticket to the relieving officer.

2674. *Chairman.*] Is it usual, or not, for a constable or somebody to come with them to Ireland?—At times they send him, at other times not; and it is perfectly possible that her removal ticket may have been given to the relieving officer.

2675. Colonel *Blair.*] Is it stated in what parish in Glasgow this woman had lived?—In the Gallowgate, in Glasgow; that is a street in Glasgow; I think that Glasgow is situated in two parishes, but I am not certain.

2676. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you another case under the same head?—There is a case where I was present myself at the Board, as far back as 1851, the evidence on which was taken by Mr. Senior on oath.

2677. *Chairman.*] Mr. Senior, the Assistant Commissioner?—Yes; and now the Poor-law Commissioner. "Thomas Dyer, an inmate of Belfast Workhouse, on his oath saith, I continuously resided in Brigtown, Barony parish, in Glasgow, for 11 years, at the house of David Catherhead, and I moved from this house three months before the great riot in Glasgow, in 1847 or 1848, when I went to Girvan, in Ayrshire, in which place I remained a year and four months, when I returned to Glasgow, and left it for four days, on a visit to Belfast. During the whole of the time, I have never received or applied for parochial relief in any form whatever, whether medical or otherwise, till Tuesday, June 10th instant, I applied for relief at the Town's Hospital, Glasgow, where I received 3 *d.* worth of bread, and I was kept waiting in a hall for three-quarters of an hour. I was then put into the train for Ardrossan, and shipped to Belfast, per steamer, against my will. I was not examined by any magistrate, and I had no removal order or ticket; I was not examined by any medical man; I was not asked whether I was married or not. My wife and three children are at present in Brigtown, Glasgow, and my family do not know what has become of me, as far as I am aware; neither have they any means of support, as the factory, Walker & Sons, is stopped. My wife, as well as myself, are natives of Ireland. The man who took me to the train

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was a young man, slightly made, of about 40 years of age, whose name I do not know. He was accompanied by a person in a moleskin suit of clothes. About 30 persons were removed at the same time by the parochial authorities." (Signed) "*Thomas Dyer*. Witness, *Edward Senior*." He is a marksman. "Sworn before me at Belfast, June 18th, 1851, *Edward Senior*."

2678. Was that taken down by you?—It was taken down by Mr. Senior in my presence. The resolution of the guardians was to this effect: "The guardians are of opinion, that although Thomas Dyer was legally removable, having lost his settlement, yet he was illegally or irregularly removed, and that there is a great hardship in his case, inasmuch as his family are remaining in Glasgow without the means of support, and are as yet ignorant of what has become of him. The deposition, and a copy of the foregoing resolution, will be forwarded to the Poor-law Commissioners."

2679. Sir *G. Grey*.] What was the illegality in his removal that the guardians refer to?—Removing him, and leaving a portion of his family behind; removing him without a regular removal order, without any examination on oath, and without a medical certificate to see whether or not he was fit to be removed.

2680. How long did he remain chargeable to the Belfast Union?—I cannot say at this moment.

2681. He is not in the union now?—No, I think not.

2682. Do you think he remained there long?—I fancy not; a person of his sort would not; the moment he could write to his friends, and get the means of going, he would give notice, get himself discharged, and go where he pleased.

2683. In what state of health was he?—Good health, I suppose.

2684. You refer to his application being made to the Town Hospital; you do not mean that the application was made on the ground of sickness; the relief which he received was in bread?—This is his expression, "the Town's Hospital;" he meant by that, the poorhouse, I suppose.

2685. I suppose Rose Ann Cooney, to whose case you just now referred, is now in the union workhouse?—She is, or at least she was on the 26th.

2686. *Chairman*.] Did you, in either of the cases which you have now mentioned, refer at all to the poor-law authorities in Scotland upon the subject?—I cannot say what communications have been made to the poor-law authorities there. I believe that, in consequence of some of our complaints, changes took place in the mode of administering the law.

2687. But with respect to either of these two cases, you are not aware that any communication was made to the poor-law authorities?—I believe not; it may have been made by the Poor-law Commissioners, but I am not aware.

2688. Mr. *Maguire*.] Do you know how a settlement is established in Scotland?—A settlement can be obtained by five years' industrial residence; indeed I believe any residence in one parish or combination, but it may be lost by removal.

2689. Sir *G. Grey*.] What do you mean by "it may be lost by removal;" will you explain that?—Perhaps the better way would be for me to read a comment upon that very point from Mr. Caird's work.

2690. Will you first read the 76th clause of the Act of Parliament of the 8th & 9th Vict., c. 83?—"Be it enacted, that from and after the passing of this Act, no person shall be held to have acquired a settlement in any parish or combination by residence therein, unless such person shall have resided for five years continuously in such parish or combination, and shall have maintained himself without having recourse to common begging, either by himself or his family, and without having received or applied for parochial relief; and no person who shall have acquired a settlement by residence in any parish or combination shall be held to have retained such settlement, if, during any subsequent period of five years, he shall not have resided in such parish or combination continuously for at least one year: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be held to affect those persons who previous to the passing of this Act shall have acquired a settlement by virtue of a residence of three years, and shall have become proper objects of parochial relief." I believe we were in ignorance of that provision in the clause until lately, and I think we passed over several cases where otherwise we might have been prepared to show that there had been an infraction of the law; but it appears that the authorities have decided that parties, though they had not applied for or received relief, if they were persons who would have been entitled to relief under their circumstances, would then come under

under the operation of the clause for removal. This is Mr. Caird's commentary upon the poor-law, and he quotes the different decisions which have been made.

2691. *Chairman.*] What page do you read from?—The 13th page of Mr. Caird's book, "Settlements by Residence." "It requires that there shall be a continuous residence of five years (instead of three as formerly) to establish a settlement by residence; it requires, moreover, that the party shall have maintained himself during that time 'without having had recourse to common begging,' and also, 'without having received or applied for parochial relief.'" The comment is, "These provisions seem to have been intended for the desirable purpose of substituting tangible facts of easy ascertainment, for the more indefinite criterion which formerly prevailed, but the clause is so expressed as to enact new grounds of disqualification, without abolishing that which formerly existed; and therefore it would seem that it must still be stated in the same terms as formerly, that a settlement cannot be acquired by residence, while the parties are 'proper objects of parochial relief,' even though they should not have had recourse to common begging, or made any application to the parish authorities for aid."

2692. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is there any decision bearing out what appears to be Mr. Caird's opinion, that a person would not acquire a settlement in Scotland by five years' continuous residence, although during the whole of those five years he had neither begged nor applied for parochial relief?—There is not.

2693. That is a mere opinion of Mr. Caird's, unsupported by any judicial decision?—So it appears here.

2694. Mr. *Maguire.*] You have said, in answer to the Right honourable Baronet, that that opinion of Mr. Caird's has been unsupported by any judicial decision; there could be no decision?—There might be through the Poor-law Commissioners; we might complain to the Poor-law Commissioners of irregularity.

2695. Sir *G. Grey.*] I believe that that book of Mr. Caird's is a book on the Scotch Poor-law, quite irrespective of Ireland?—Quite so.

2696. And you read his opinion as to the operation of the Scotch law as between one parish and another in Scotland?—Upon the power of removing, whether from one parish to another, or from Scotland to Ireland.

2697. *Chairman.*] Do you know whether Mr. Dunlop expresses any opinion upon this point, the other great authority upon Scotch Poor-law?—I have not examined that.

2698. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you any other cases of persons removed after a long residence in England or Scotland?—I will now take the case of Mary M'Loughlin, taken on oath before Mr. Senior.

2699. Sir *G. Grey.*] What is the date?—31st March 1852.

2700. *Chairman.*] Was this taken in your presence?—Yes; "The case of Mary M'Loughlin, sent by the authorities from Scotland, and now an inmate in the Belfast Workhouse."

2701. Sir *G. Grey.*] When you say, "now an inmate in the Belfast Workhouse," you refer to the 31st March 1852?—Yes.

2702. Is she still an inmate in the workhouse?—I do not know.

2703. You do not know how long she remained?—I do not.

2704. *Chairman.*] Will you read it?—"The case of Mary M'Loughlin, sent by the authorities from Scotland, and now an inmate in the Belfast Workhouse, directed by the Board at their meeting on the 24th March to be prepared and laid before them at their next meeting, is a native of the county of Leitrim, and when an infant was taken by her father, a labourer, to Edinburgh, with whom she lived, and by him was supported until his death, which took place about three years past. Shortly after that event she went to service in a farmer's house, near Edinburgh, and continued supporting herself by servitude, varied only by a short period, which she wrought in a mill in Dundee, from the father's death, until November last, during which time she never sought for or received any relief, parochial or otherwise. In or about November 1851, being afflicted with syphilis, she made application at, and was admitted into, the infirmary in Edinburgh, in which she remained for a period of five weeks and two days dangerously bad; so much so that during said time she was unable to remain out of bed a single day; was treated for that disease in the infirmary, when she was taken, at seven o'clock at night, out of her bed by a man (who subsequently escorted her to Belfast); was brought by him to and kept in the workhouse that night;

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night; next day was brought before the sheriff (as she supposes), interrogated by him as to place of birth, was sworn, and made affix her mark to some document, of the contents of which she was ignorant; was then brought back to the workhouse, kept there that night, and next day was taken by train to Glasgow, and from thence here to Belfast. She got no treatment for disease during the time she was in the workhouse, nor until she arrived in Belfast; and the consequence was that the disease was augmented by reason of the neglect, and was under treatment here for six weeks before pronounced well; has got some few articles of clothing where she had lodged in Edinburgh; asked permission to go for them while in the workhouse there, which was refused."

2705. Sir *G. Grey*.] What was her age?—It does not give her age.

2706. She was a single woman, I suppose?—She must have been.

2707. Colonel *Blair*.] Does it give the parish in which she was living in Edinburgh?—It says in Edinburgh.

2708. But not the parish?—No.

2709. Nor the name of the magistrate before whom she was taken?—It does not state.

2710. *Chairman*.] I believe, by the Scotch Poor-law Act, the sheriff has the same power as any two justices with respect to determining complaints of this kind?—Yes, and I believe they interpret relief in a hospital or infirmary as poor relief, because the Scotch authorities have the power of subscribing to hospitals or infirmaries, and we complain that advantage has been taken of that, which we think should not have been done, considering that they are reported to receive a large annual sum from the Consolidated Fund for medical charities.

2711. Colonel *Blair*.] Do you bring this case forward as a case of hardship or of illegality?—I bring it forward as a case where she was removed after long residence.

2712. There is no proof there of her having acquired a settlement?—I have not brought it forward as a proof of illegal removal; merely a proof of hardship; leaving the question of legality or illegality to be decided by others.

2713. Mr. *Maguire*.] Am I to understand you as saying that the poor-law authorities subscribe a certain sum towards the public infirmaries, and that when a person applies for admission into one of those infirmaries or hospitals, advantage is taken of the subscription given by the poor-law authorities so as to make them as it were poor-law institutions, and thereby bringing the applicants for relief within the operation of the law of removal?—That is our impression; we complain of that; and perhaps I may now read the power which they have of subscribing to these hospitals. The 67th clause of the same Act of Parliament, is "Be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the parochial Board, in any parish or combination, for the benefit of the poor of such parish or combination, to contribute annually or otherwise such sums of money as to them may seem reasonable and expedient, from the funds raised for the relief of the poor to any public infirmary, dispensary, or lying-in hospital, or to any lunatic asylum, or asylum for the blind, or deaf and dumb." The next clause is, "Be it enacted, that from and after the passing of this Act all assessments imposed and levied for the relief of the poor shall extend and be applicable to the relief of occasional as well as permanent poor: Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be held to confer a right to demand relief on able-bodied persons out of employment." Then the 69th section is, "Be it enacted, that in every parish or combination it shall and may be lawful for the parochial Board, and they are hereby required, out of the funds raised for the relief of the poor, to provide for medicines, medical attendance, nutritious diet, cordials, and clothing for such poor, in such manner and to such extent as may seem equitable and expedient; and it shall be lawful for the parochial Board to make provision for the education of poor children, who are themselves or whose parents are objects of parochial relief."

2714. Sir *G. Grey*.] Do not you infer from those three clauses put together, which you have read, that the obligation being created to provide medical relief, that medical relief may be given by sending a poor person applying for it to some infirmary, or dispensary, or hospital, to which the parochial Board subscribes?—We do infer that; but we infer something more: that if parties meet with an accident, if they become through casualty unable to work; if a man getting a broken limb goes into a hospital, that would not constitute relief authorising the authorities to remove that person; and I think the case I have just read bears that out.

2715. Does

2715. Does it appear how that woman was admitted into the hospital, whether it was upon her own application, or whether upon the application of the parochial Board?—It does not appear so.

2716. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you another case?—The case of Susan Gallagher, pauper. This is her statement; it is not verified on oath.

2717. *Chairman.*] Was it taken by you, or before you?—It was taken by the clerk of our union, in my presence.

2718. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What is the date of it?—Third of May, 1854.

2719. *Chairman.*] Will you read it?—"Susan Gallagher states, that she was born in Maghera, county Derry, and when about three years old her parents took her with them to Glasgow. Is now aged about 36 years. About four years after being in Scotland, her father was drowned at the time of the loss of the "Comet" steamboat. Lived with her mother until her death, about two and a half years after the death of her father. Her mother kept a shop in the main street of Gorbals." That is in Glasgow, I believe. "After her death she wrought in a factory, came to Ireland about the year 1832, and wrought in Mr. Lepper's factory at Belfast for about two years and seven months. Then returned to Glasgow, and wrought in a factory there all the time up to applying for relief, about four months ago. Went first into the poorhouse, being afflicted with rheumatic pains; remained there four weeks; and on the pains returning, went back to the poorhouse in 10 days, where she was relieved for seven weeks; after which she was removed to Belfast, and is now chargeable in the Belfast workhouse. In the last parish she lived nine years previous to being admitted into the poorhouse." We bring this forward as a case of removal after a long residence; not with reference to the question of whether or not she had obtained a settlement.

2720. A case rather, then, of hardship than of illegality; you do not positively allege any illegality in that case?—We do not allege it, but I am of opinion that it was illegal.

2721. Upon what ground?—That she was nine years in one parish, upon her own statement.

2722. Colonel *Blair.*] Does it state that she lived nine years in the parish of Gorbals?—Subsequently to her coming to Belfast, and to her working in Belfast, in 1832.

2723. Sir *G. Grey.*] Without applying for parochial relief?—So it appears.

2724. Colonel *Blair.*] Does she give the dates; what time she remained in that parish?—Yes, in her statement.

2725. Sir *G. Grey.*] But was not she for 11 weeks, at two intervals, in the workhouse before she was removed, upon her own statement?—Yes; she went to Ireland in 1832, and wrought in Mr. Lepper's mill, at Belfast, about two years and seven months, which would take her up to the end of 1834; she then returned to Glasgow, and wrought in a factory there, up to the time of her applying for relief; that would be 19 years in all.

2726. But she says nine years, in her statement?—Yes.

2727. Nine years in one parish?—Yes; that she lived nine years in the parish previous to being admitted into the poorhouse.

2728. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you another case?—The case of Hugh Trainor, wife and daughter; at this case I was not present.

2729. *Chairman.*] Where do you get it from, then?—From Mr. Holden.

2730. Who is he?—He was one of our guardians.

2731. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What is the date of it?—It is in March 1849; he was not admitted into our workhouse.

2732. *Chairman.*] Was it taken by Mr. Holden?—I can only give you Mr. Holden's statement to me, that it was taken by him. "Hugh Trainor, age 60; wife 59, and daughter 14; sent from Glasgow, where he had resided in the same close, off 189, High-street, for the last six years; never got any relief till Wednesday last, when they got half a stone of meal; has four sons still there: Hugh, 30, married, earning 25*s.* per week, as a mason; Owen, 28, unmarried, earning 20*s.* a week; Michael, 26, earning 20*s.*; and John, 16, earning 7*s.* a week, in a rag store; is himself a mason, and can earn 18*s.* per week; has his house and furniture still there, and two of his sons proposed to keep him, but he would not be given up to them." This proposal, I believe, was subsequent to his having received relief." "The girl was at Mrs. M'Donnell's school (Greyfriars), and got her meat and clothes from them, and came home every night. The father and mother being

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sent here, was the cause of her coming, as they could have no charge against her; requests most earnestly to be sent back to his work, and produces an account against a man there who owes him 24*s.* 9*d.* Belfast, 19th March 1849. *Hugh Trainor*, his + mark."

2733. Sir *G. Grey.*] Does he state why, having three sons in Glasgow, one earning 25*s.* a week, and the other two, 20*s.* each, he did not apply to them for some help, rather than apply to the parochial Board for relief?—He does not.

2734. He did not become chargeable, if I understand you rightly, to the Belfast Union?—I believe not.

2735. Did he go back to Glasgow?—I know nothing further about him.

2736. He did not remain in Belfast?—He may or may not; I suspect that he would merely wait until his sons had sent him money, and then go back.

2377. But I understand you to say that he was never admitted, even for a night, into the Belfast Workhouse?—I believe he never applied even.

2738. *Chairman.*] I understand that there does not appear in that case to have been any communication with the authorities in Scotland?—No.

2739. Mr. *Maguire.*] Speaking of communication with the authorities in Scotland, of what advantage would a communication with the authorities in Scotland be; if your Board of Guardians found themselves aggrieved, what would be the practical advantage of their appealing to, or communicating with, the Scotch authorities?—I believe some good did result from our appealing to the Irish Poor-law Commissioners; we complained that the law was not observed; that paupers were sent over without a removal ticket; that they were sent over in a weakly state of health, and that they were sent without food; and an order or letter was issued from the Board of Supervision in Scotland to the authorities there, which I believe was occasioned by our complaints, and I will now read it. It will show the effect which was produced; that we had some ground for complaining. The only place where I have a copy of the order is in Mr. Caird's book, and he introduces it as part of the orders and regulations issued by the Board of Supervision for carrying out the law. It is in page 194, "Removal of English and Irish paupers, Board of Supervision, Edinburgh, 29th January 1846." Complaints were made from the time that I became a guardian, in March 1843; we were still mentioning any case that occurred to the Poor-law Commissioners, and I believe they did what they could to get us relief; and I believe that in consequence of our complaints, these orders were issued in 1846.

2740. *Chairman.*] Have there been complaints since?—We have made complaints since.

2741. To the Poor-law Commissioners of Ireland?—We have forwarded cases repeatedly, and I have some to submit to the Committee. "Sir,—I have received instructions from the Board of Supervision to transmit to you the following recommendations, in regard to the removal of English and Irish paupers who may have become chargeable upon your parish: 1st. That with reference to the 77th Section of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, when it may be necessary to remove English or Irish paupers from Scotland, care should be taken that they are removed in such manner as may not be injurious to their health. 2d. That in cases of women and children, persons recently recovered from sickness, and the weak and infirm of all descriptions, more especially during a voyage by sea in the winter season, such accommodation should be provided as may protect them from injury by exposure to inclement weather. 3d. That in all cases such poor persons as are removed by sea should be conveyed to such port, with which there is a regular communication, as may, on a consideration of the whole circumstances, afford paupers the greatest facility and convenience for speedily arriving at the place of their ultimate destination. I have to request that you will take an early opportunity of submitting this letter, with the foregoing recommendations, to the Parochial Board of your parish. I am, &c., *W. Smythe*, Secretary." Directed to "The Inspector of Poor." This distinctly recognises several of our grounds of complaint. Then there was a circular issued in April 1846: "As to removing paupers applying for parochial relief, but not having a settlement in the parish to which they apply, the Board of Supervision has learned by communications received from various parts of Scotland, that poor persons, after having applied for and received relief from a parish, have on many occasions been improperly removed, and forwarded elsewhere, without any measures having been taken to ascertain to what parishes such poor persons belong. As abuses appear to have arisen from the law upon this subject being but imperfectly understood, I am desired

desired by the Board of Supervision to inform you, and all Inspectors of the poor, that under the existing law any destitute poor person legally entitled to relief by applying to a parish for relief, although he have no settlement therein, acquires a right to be maintained by the parish to which such application is first made, and that he is to be considered and treated in all respects as a pauper belonging to that parish, until the parish in which his settlement is (if in Scotland) shall have been admitted or otherwise clearly established; or if he have no settlement in Scotland, then until such time as he shall have been removed in the manner directed by the statute; and further, that such poor person must not, upon any plea or pretence whatsoever, be removed or forwarded to another parish in Scotland, except to the parish of his settlement, after it has been admitted or established;" evidently admitting the principle that persons had been removed without due consideration as to the question of settlement.

2742. Colonel *Blair.*] In these cases of hardship which were complained of by you as to the manner in which these paupers were removed, have you any statements with regard to the want of food; I think you stated that they did not supply them with food?—I have no case to bring before the Committee upon that point, because a large number of cases which I had prepared were handed to one of our former Members, in order that the whole matter might be brought under the notice of the Legislature; they were handed to him some three years since, and they are no longer available to me.

2743. You state that on these complaints being made to the Board of Supervision, they attended to them?—We made complaints to our Poor-law Commissioners in Ireland.

2744. Who complained to the Board of Supervision in Edinburgh?—I believe that they forwarded the matter in the regular way through the English Board, or through the Home Secretary.

2745. Do you suppose that the accommodation given to those paupers in being sent back to Ireland was worse than the general accommodation which there is on steamers coming from Scotland to Ireland?—I believe not; but I think that they were occasionally sent not in a fit state to bear the exposure of a deck passage.

2746. But you are aware, I suppose, that the numbers who come over to Ireland from Greenock, Glasgow, and Ardrossan seldom come over in any other way than by deck passages?—Seldom.

2747. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the length of the passage from Glasgow to Belfast?—If they embark at Glasgow, it would be perhaps 11 or 12 hours; if they embark at Greenock, it would be 10 hours.

2748. Sir *G. Grey.*] How much of that would be an open sea passage, as distinct from the river passage?—At least six or seven hours.

2749. Colonel *Blair.*] And if they embark at Ardrossan, what do you call the passage?—They would be nearly six hours from Ardrossan in the present boats.

2750. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the average passage between Belfast and Liverpool?—In quick-sailing boats it is now done in 10 hours, but it varies from 10 to 15. I came by Fleetwood in consequence of the Liverpool boat being a slow one, and it would have taken 15 hours.

2751. Colonel *Blair.*] You consider the open sea passage from Glasgow to Belfast not more than six or seven hours?—Not more; but that, I conceive, would be too much for a man to be sent on board in a sickly or a delicate state, and we have had cases of parties landing on our quay, whether from England or Scotland we could not tell, in a moribund state. We could ascertain nothing about them.

2752. Sir *G. Grey.*] Shall you be able to give us cases of that sort presently?—I can merely give you my own evidence as a member of the Board of Guardians, and refer you to the case of the pauper Duigenan, which, I think, is a Dublin case.

2753. You are now speaking of persons sent from England or from Scotland under order of removal?—Yes; in a delicate state.

2754. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What is the next case which you have?—There was the case of Michael M'Donald, in 1848. I have this case; but, in brief, the case was forwarded in detail, I think, to the Poor-law Commissioners. I have a very brief abstract of the case. The pauper was admitted in my presence at the Board; the date is the 15th March 1848. "Michael M'Donald, a native of Longford, lived continuously in Edinburgh for the last 11 years; supported himself and his family for nine years without obtaining or seeking for any parochial relief;

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relief; two years ago took fever, and went to hospital; since that has been again twice in hospital; received relief from the parish since December; his wife and he were put into a room and kept prisoners until brought before the justices; he was ordered to be removed to Ireland; would not be allowed to go to their house where their furniture, &c. was; was 10 years in Grass-market." His wife, however, he now states, did get permission to look after their chattels.

2755. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was that a subsequent statement which he made, correcting the former one?—Yes. That is merely a case of hardship.

2756. Colonel *Blair.*] You say that he was kept prisoner in a room?—I take it that when they receive relief the constable or relieving officer goes to them and desires them to wait upon the sheriff or the justices, and if they are put into a room they consider it being kept. I do not consider that there was any imprisonment in the case. I give his statement, however, as it was made. The next is the case of Mary Brady, the same date, 15th March 1848, from Edinburgh. "A widow; kept a lodging-house in Edinburgh; applied in December for relief; got it."

2757. Does it state the parish?—No. "Considers that she had gained a settlement; would not be allowed by the magistrates to enter upon proof of setlement."

2758. Of what place was she a native?—She does not state. "She was bundled off with M'Donald to Belfast, and was there at once relieved."

2759. Sir *G. Grey.*] Had she any children?—No.

2760. *Chairman.*] Who took that down?—Our clerk.

2761. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you know how long she remained in the workhouse?—No, I do not.

2762. Colonel *Blair.*] There was no statement as to where she came from, or who she was?—No; merely that she would not be allowed to enter into the question, or into proof of her having a settlement; that seems to be the only ground of complaint there; she may have had a long residence or not.

2763. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What is the next case under that head?—"Fourth December 1850, Catherine M'Ewan, deserted by husband; lived in Haddington eight years; is a native of Belfast; was removed by force by the police, and kept in the gaol at Haddington for two days."

2764. Sir *G. Grey.*] Removed from whence by the police?—From her house in Haddington.

2765. She so states?—She states the cause of complaint relative to the mode: "Was kept in the gaol at Haddington for two days. The policeman broke open the door of her residence in the presence of the parish inspector, Mr. Swinburne, and by his order; her property is still in the house."

2766. Was she committed to gaol upon any charge?—I suppose she received relief, and she refused to attend the constable; that is the way in which I explain the matter.

2767. Colonel *Blair.*] She does not state the cause of their breaking open the door of her residence?—She does not.

2768. Sir *G. Grey.*] What age was she?—We have not her age here.

2769. Had she any children?—No children; it was a case of desertion.

2770. Colonel *Blair.*] Does it state in what occupation she was, or her husband?—No, it states that she was deserted by her husband. If the husband had not obtained a settlement, of course she became subject to all the features of his case.

2771. Sir *G. Grey.*] Did she say when she first applied for relief?—It does not state that she even applied for relief.

2772. Do you mean that it does not appear even that she became chargeable to the parochial Board?—It does not even appear so.

2773. Does it appear that she was removed under an order of removal?—It appears that she was taken, and that she was removed; but this has been taken shortly, referring to other cases; the full detail of the cases were forwarded to the Commissioners, so far as I could understand from our clerk.

2774. *Chairman.*] Have you read the whole of what you have there?—Yes.

2775. Colonel *Blair.*] That statement was taken before whom?—It was taken down by the clerk to our Poor-law union. I have no other case to give to the Committee under that head.

2776. What is the next head?—I have mentioned that poor persons were sent over in large numbers, and that latterly they have been sent over in larger numbers in

in proportion to the time; formerly persons were removed without renewal ticket or medical certificate.

2777. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] That, you say, has been to a great degree obviated now?—To a considerable extent, although not entirely; there are still cases.

2778. Sir *G. Grey.*] Have you any other class of cases illustrating defects in the law, or in the administration of it?—I have cases of persons who have been removed leaving house and furniture; the first notice which I got of this case to which I am about to refer, was from the newspaper; I was not present at the admission of the parties myself, but I thought it my duty when getting information to go out and to verify a portion of it.

2779. *Chairman.*] What is the date of the case?—The 8th of May 1849.

2780. Is that the time when the persons came into the workhouse?—It was either the 7th or 8th of May.

2781. Will you state it; did you take it yourself?—What I am about to read I took. The first statement drawing my attention to it, was an announcement in the newspaper: "Yesterday 29 paupers were sent here from Scotland, having little claim on our union; among them were two children, aged respectively seven and five; it is said they belong to county Cavan, but they have no recollection of any place but that where they resided in Scotland; they are now permanently cast on this union." I searched out the cases in the workhouse, and I found that upon the 7th or 8th May, Hannah Clarke and Catherine Clarke, aged, according to our poor-law books, nine and five, were admitted; Hannah Clarke is at service. I hoped to have got more available information from her, and that it would have been forwarded to me here, but Catherine Clarke is still in the workhouse at Belfast; her statement is that her father and mother died in Scotland; she cannot tell in what city or what place; that she has two brothers still living in Scotland; she knows not where; that they were sent over, she believes, by order of the authorities in Scotland; but the case agreed exactly with the newspaper announcement, and I have no doubt of it.

2782. Sir *G. Grey.*] From whence were they sent?—From Scotland.

2783. From what part of Scotland?—She cannot tell that; the people are landed from the steamboat upon our quays; they would march up in large numbers to the relieving officer, or to some of the authorities, to get relief.

2784. *Chairman.*] There seem to be no particulars there?—No particulars.

2785. Colonel *Blair.*] The elder sister could not state from what port of Scotland they came?—The elder sister is at service, and I have not been able to get her evidence. I only got the particulars of the case the day before leaving.

2786. Sir *G. Grey.*] Do you mean to say that the statement you have now read from the younger sister was not taken in 1849, but has been taken now?—It was taken by me the day before I left Belfast.

2787. Was any statement taken from either of those children on their first arrival at Belfast?—There was no statement at all; this statement had not been taken down in our application and relief book. It would be impossible, in the admission of sometimes 100 or 150 paupers, to take down all the particulars.

2788. Then the only information which you have with regard to those two children, is derived from the statement of the younger one, made now?—That is the only information.

2789. Colonel *Blair.*] Can you inform the Committee where these children came from; yourself, from your knowledge?—I cannot; I hoped to have had more definite information respecting the case before I was summoned here, but I called for it to-day, and it has not reached me.

2790. How do you know that they came from Scotland?—By the statement of the girl herself, and by the newspaper announcement, which came from an authority that I would not doubt.

2791. Can you give the name of the boat which they came by?—I cannot.

2792. *Chairman.*] You assume that the newspaper statement is identical with that of the girl?—I do.

2793. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Do you think that you will be able to send the particulars over to the Committee, after your return to Belfast?—I will make every effort to get them.

2794. Sir *G. Grey.*] With what view do you bring that case before the Committee; they appear to have been two orphans, who were removed from some parish in Scotland to Belfast; was there anything illegal in their removal, or was

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there any peculiar hardship in it?—It might perhaps come under two objections; it might come under the objection that families have been separated.

2795. From whom were they separated; their parents being both dead?—Two brothers, who, they state, are still living there.

2796. I thought you said that they did not know in what part of Scotland those two brothers were?—She does not know.

2797. Then does it appear that they were living with those two brothers, and were separated from them by the order of removal?—This child being only five years of age when admitted, of course would have a very imperfect recollection; she might understand well, or perfectly recollect, that she had two brothers living there, but she was not able to tell the town where she had resided, or from whence she was removed.

2798. *Chairman.*] Is it not an account given by her, when ten years old, of matters which had happened before she was five years old?—Yes.

2799. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you any cases of persons having been removed while labouring under disease, or while weak from disease; and in consequence having died on their passage, or soon after landing, and cholera having been introduced into the union?—There was a case upon the first introduction of cholera into Belfast in 1848, the case of Thomas Tiernan. This is the report from our medical officer, Dr. Seaton Reid: "I am sorry to be obliged to report that a case of Asiatic cholera was admitted into the fever hospital,"—of the workhouse, we have a fever hospital of the town; this is the fever hospital of the workhouse;—"at nine in the morning of Monday last, and died at half-past seven in the evening. The patient Thomas Tiernan and his family had removed on Tuesday the 28th ultimo," that is the 28th of November, "from a part of Edinburgh in which there had been no cases of cholera, to an entry or close in that city, in which the disease had prevailed for some weeks. A case of cholera had occurred three days previously in the room to which they removed, and during the night of Wednesday another case. On the morning of Thurday, Tiernan and family left this room, and went into the poorhouse, where for the first time he had painless diarrhœa, but refused, although urged by his wife to apply for medical assistance. On Friday morning he received a 'pass order' to bring him by railway and steamer to Belfast, where he arrived on Saturday morning, still suffering from diarrhœa, and was admitted into the probationary ward of the workhouse in the evening. He appears to have been anxious to conceal his illness, and even when I saw him at nine on Monday morning, hesitated to give an accurate history of himself. In the treatment of his case I had the valuable assistance of Doctors S. S. Thompson, Kidley, and M'Gee. I had his wife and children brought over immediately to a ward in the fever hospital, where they still remain well."

2800. Sir *G. Grey.*] Is there any evidence from that statement, or from any other source, that the parochial authorities in Edinburgh were aware that the man was ill at the time he was sent?—No; but I assume that the medical officer of that establishment should have been aware of it if he had looked at the man. In a case of diarrhœa connected with cholera, there are unmistakable symptoms about the patient that should have indicated what was going on.

2801. It is said that he received a "pass;" does that mean that he was sent under a compulsory order of removal?—Yes; at least I suppose so.

2802. Colonel *Blair.*] Is there a statement of how long he had resided in Edinburgh?—No. He comes in under the class of persons removed while labouring under disease, or while in an unfit state to be removed.

2803. Does it state the parish from which he was removed?—No.

2804. The name of the close?—No. He went into the workhouse, and from thence he was removed.

2805. On what day?—On Thursday, the 30th November 1848. Cholera appeared in Belfast in December 1848, and did not leave until January 1850. We had a second importation from Glasgow. "Since our last, several more cases of cholera have occurred in the union workhouse."

2806. *Chairman.*] What is this?—It is taken from a newspaper. It is one of our reports, given by myself. I prepared those cholera reports. The particular case which I am about to read is taken from our Frederick-street Hospital.

2807. Colonel *Blair.*] What is the date?—Twenty-seventh December 1848.

2808. Sir *G. Grey.*] Will you read it?—"One of the children of the unfortunate man Gardner, who arrived here from Glasgow on Friday morning, and expired in the Frederick-street Hospital the same evening, died on Sunday in the hospital

hospital of the workhouse; and two others were subsequently seized with the disease, but are, we understand, likely to recover. No further case, so far as we can ascertain, has occurred in the town."

2809. Does it appear that those children had the disease upon them, and evidently had it when they were removed from Glasgow?—We assume that; whether it was the case or not of course we cannot prove.

2810. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Were they removed from Glasgow?—Yes.

2811. Was there an order of removal in that case?—Yes; at least it is taken as one of those cases sent over and landed upon our quays.

2812. Sir *G. Grey.*] And taken into the workhouse?—The father into the Frederick-street Hospital, and the children into the workhouse.

2813. But would the children have been taken into the workhouse if, when they landed at Belfast, they were evidently suffering from cholera?—They would have been taken into the probationary ward, and transferred to our fever hospital.

2814. Do you know whether, when the children were first taken into the workhouse, they had the appearance of suffering from cholera?—I cannot state that.

2815. Colonel *Blair.*] We have not heard the case of the father?—He was treated in the Frederick-street Hospital. We have two fever hospitals; we have a contiguous hospital attached to our workhouse, and a general hospital, the Frederick-street Hospital.

2816. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—There is the case of Robert White, in 1854. I was present when this man was admitted; he is not in the workhouse at present; he has since left; he was sent from London; admitted on the 9th May, labouring under lead-palsy.

2817. Sir *G. Grey.*] He was removed from London to Belfast?—Yes.

2818. How?—I cannot tell you whether they sent him in a steamer, or in what way.

2819. *Chairman.*] Was it under an order of removal?—Yes.

2820. From what parish or union?—I can find nothing more about him than that he was forwarded labouring under lead-palsy, and we received him, and he discharged himself after a few days' presence in the workhouse.

2821. Did you see any order of removal, or did he tell you?—I did not see any; I take it from our books that he was removed from London by the authorities. There is a case which will also come under another head, of persons whose parents could, and in our opinion should support them, and who ought not to have been removed. It is a case which we have forwarded to the Poor-law Commissioners, in order that it should be brought under the notice of the authorities.

2822. Sir *G. Grey.*] What is the date?—The 15th April 1854.

2823. Is this now under the consideration of the Poor-law Commissioners?—Yes; it is the case of Patrick Flanagan. The first document is a medical report. The boy, Patrick Flanagan, I should say, is found in Perth Gaol. How or why he was committed we do not know; the documents do not tell us; we seek for information upon that point.

2824. How does it appear that he was in Perth Gaol?—From the certificate. "Medical Report.—Perth, 5th April 1854."

2825. From what do you take this certificate?—It was in our workhouse; I was present.

2826. Did the boy bring this certificate with him?—He brought the documents, and they have been forwarded by Colonel Clarke to the Poor-law Commissioners in Dublin: "We certify, in soul and conscience, that we have personally visited and carefully examined Patrick Flanagan, a prisoner in Perth Gaol; and that it is our opinion he is insane. The form of his insanity is that of idiotcy, and from the history of his case it appears that epilepsy has been connected with it from the boy's infancy. (Signed) *William Malcom*, M.D. *J. J. White*, M.D."

2827. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What was the next document which came over with him?—The next document is, "Perth, 29th April 1854.—Application by the Inspector of Perth to remove Partick Flanagan.—Notes of evidence.—Betsey Maclie, residing in Perth, sworn: I am the mother of the boy Patrick Flanagan. He was born in Gortmore, parish of Portree, county of Galway. He is 12 years of age. His father's name was Thomas Flanagan, who had a farm in said parish, belonging to Mr. Lynch. His father died in Ireland; I came with him to this country about three years ago; we have been in different places in Scot-

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land, but principally in Perth. I am again married in Perth; Patrick has always been of weak mind, having got a fall when about two years old. I cannot write. (Signed) *Hugh Barclay*.—Hugh O'Neill, labourer, in Perth: I have known the last witness since she was born; she was married first in Ireland to Thomas Flanagan, Gortmore, parish of Portree, county of Galway, Ireland; that the boy Patrick was her first child, and born in Ireland about 12 years ago. He came with his mother to Scotland about three years ago, and has chiefly resided in Perth since then. The boy is wrong in his mind. I cannot write. (Signed) *Hugh Barclay*." Then follows the order of removal to Belfast, dated the 2d May 1854, the boy then being in the lodging-house for the poor in Cut-log Vennel, Perth; signed, "*Hugh Barclay*, sheriff-substitute." I have not the removal order. It is the usual order, but it has been forwarded with the documents. It was accompanied by a certificate: "I certify, in soul and conscience, that I have this day examined Patrick Flanagan, and consider him in good health, and perfectly able to be removed to Ireland. (Signed) *Robert Christie*, surgeon." We have introduced this case to prove that there have been young persons whose parents could or should have supported them, and yet that they have been removed. We quote the case also to show that he was labouring under disease. Whether we are right in our interpretation of the law or not, I cannot say; but we believe that the mother, when she married again, conveyed all the liability to support this child to her second husband.

2828. Sir *G. Grey*.] Does it appear what the husband was, and whether the husband and the mother were able to support the boy?—It does not; but we then think that they are in this dilemma. They should not have separated the family. They should have removed them all, we take it, or none. If the child was removable, and had not a settlement, and the parent had not a settlement, we take it that they should have been all removed.

2829. But this case is now under the consideration of the Poor-law Commissioners, with a view to inquiry into the facts?—Yes; and attached to it is the regular removal order. But we think it strange that there should have been first, a certificate that he was of unsound mind, in a state of idiotcy, subject to epilepsy; and yet a certificate stating that he was in good health and fit to be removed.

2830. Is he in a state of idiotcy?—He has been very lately admitted to our house, and it is not my duty to examine him; indeed it would have been an interference with the medical officer of the house.

2831. Do you know in what state of bodily health he was when he arrived at the house?—In tolerably good bodily health. I think it will appear upon the documents that the boy was transferred from the gaol to the workhouse.

2832. At all events, that he found his way into the workhouse after his discharge from gaol?—So far as we can ascertain, he was removed from the one to the other.

2833. What reason have you for supposing that he was removed from the gaol to the workhouse?—Merely the observations of our relieving officer; whether he had obtained all the requisite information or not I do not know.

2834. Do you think that he may have obtained it from the statement of the boy himself?—I think it is probable.

2835. Sir *R. Ferguson*.] Or from the person sent over with him; was there any person sent over with that boy?—I will not speak positively on that case.

2836. Colonel *Blair*.] Dr. Christie is a doctor at Perth as well as the other two; are you aware of that?—I am not aware of it.

2837. *Chairman*.] What is the next case?—I have referred to the case of persons receiving medical or surgical relief. We complain that if we are correct in our views that parties have been removed having received medical or surgical relief, it is hard, inasmuch as the Scotch authorities receive a Government grant in partial aid of medical charities, that it should be made a cause for removal; I can shortly refer to a case under that head. My reason for being able to bring so few cases of this sort before the Committee I have mentioned already; but repeated statements have been made in my presence by parties seeking admission having been removed, having sought for and obtained no other relief than medical or surgical relief. I am not able to give the Committee the names of the parties, however. I have mentioned the case of families having been separated; I have mentioned two cases under that head.

2838. Sir

2838. Sir *G. Grey.*] One being the case of two orphans, about whom you have no other information than you have already given to the Committee?—Yes.

2839. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you any case of the removal of children whose parents were in gaol in Scotland?—Yes; a case perfectly notorious; the case of the boy Stewart, from Stranraer.

2840. Will you give the particulars of it, and the date?—This case has been the subject of a long correspondence with the authorities, and the papers have been printed by order of Parliament. He came into the workhouse by order of our relieving officer, on the 14th of February 1851, and remained an inmate till the 4th of April 1851.

2841. Sir *G. Grey.*] What became of him then?—I will read the declaration, upon oath, of our master: "I, William Tidd, master of the Belfast Union Workhouse, Belfast, do solemnly and sincerely declare, that a child named John Stewart, aged 15 months, was presented at the workhouse for admission, on an order signed by William Vance, relieving officer, on the 14th day of February 1851, when he was received into this workhouse, and remained as an inmate up till the 4th day of April 1851; on which last-named day a woman, who stated that she was the mother of the child John Stewart, came to the workhouse, and presented a document to the following effect, viz.: 'Stranraer, 3d April 1851.—This is to certify that the bearer, Margaret Davidson, or Stewart, is mother of John Stewart, the child who was sent from Stranraer to Belfast, and admitted into the workhouse on the 15th February 1851.—*Henry Watt*, Inspector of Poor.'" Then there is the declaration of the relieving officer, how the boy was admitted into our workhouse. The boy was forwarded because he was deserted, his parents being confined in gaol in Stranraer; and I find that I took some especial interest in this case; before it was forwarded to the Poor-law Commissioners, the matter was referred to me.

2842. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] In what year were the papers respecting that case printed?—It is Parliamentary Paper, No. 529, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 11th July 1851. The opinion of the Board of Supervision was, that they were not prepared to say that the removal was illegal; I think that is the report upon the case.

2843. Colonel *Blair.*] There was a communication made to the Board of Supervision?—By the Government. We forwarded it to the Poor-law Commissioners, and they took the necessary steps for having it brought under the notice of the Legislature; and the Board of Supervision in Scotland were referred to, and they have given a reply.

2844. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Were you left under the impression that there was any legal mode of trying the legality?—I am not aware that we have any mode of trying it; there is no appeal from a Scotch removal.

2845. Sir *G. Grey.*] In point of fact, that case was brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision in Scotland?—It was.

2846. And the correspondence upon the subject is printed in the Parliamentary Paper to which you have referred?—It is all there; it seemed quite right to bring it before you, as one of our grounds of complaint.

2847. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—We complain that paupers, on removal, are abandoned at the sea-port nearest to, or most convenient to Scotland or England, without reference to the place of birth, or the former residence of the parties in Ireland; and it is needless to quote any case of that nature, nearly nine-tenths of all our cases being of that kind.

2848. Sir *G. Grey.*] You mean that there is no provision by law for sending them on to the place of their birth?—Yes. In the English law there is a schedule giving a certain number of ports, and the pauper is to be removed to such of those ports as is nearest to his home, unless he otherwise consent. But we consider that that limitation, "unless he otherwise consent," neutralises the whole good effect which would otherwise be derived from it.

2849. *Chairman.*] There is no schedule of ports at all in the Scotch Act?—No; they may send them where they please.

2850. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] And you state that a very large proportion of them are sent to the places most convenient to the ports from which they are issued?—About nine-tenths.

2851. Sir *G. Grey.*] And you naturally complain that Belfast receives a large proportion of the paupers who are removed from Scotland?—We complain that

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Belfast is burthened with the support of persons who have no especial claim on us.

2852. What is the number of the inmates in the Belfast workhouse at present?—Over 1,400, and under 1,500.

2853. By a return which has been furnished to the Committee by Mr. Power, it appears that there are only 13 now in the Belfast workhouse receiving relief, who have been removed from England or from Scotland; is that correct?—I think on the 26th, when I left, we had 20, but it would be impossible for me to verify that without getting all the paupers up and examining them upon oath, which I have no power to do.

2854. But in point of fact the proportion of paupers now receiving relief in the Belfast Union Workhouse, who have been removed from England or from Scotland, is very small?—Very small.

2855. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Is it the opinion of the Board of Guardians in Belfast that there should be that power of removal given of the poor in Ireland?—We should be very sorry to get any such power, clogged as it would be by litigation, and the expense of litigation, nor do we see how we could have a power of removal unless we had a law of settlement.

2856. Colonel *Blair.*] The only ports to which there is steam communication from Scotland to Ireland, I think, are Belfast and Dublin?—Derry; and there may be to the seaport nearest to Newry; I believe there is, but I cannot speak positively, but with Derry there is very free communication.

2857. Is there steam communication between that and Glasgow?—Yes.

2858. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Although Belfast is a great centre of industry, and wages are higher, you are not afraid that the influx of labour from rural districts, without a law of settlement and removal, will be such as to unfairly burthen the rates to any serious extent?—I speak first for myself; I have no such fear. I speak also for the majority of the guardians, who express distinctly in their last petition to your House their feeling upon the subject. There may be, indeed I may say that there are, one or two who fear that they would have a great burthen unless they had a power of removal; but these are persons who have had little or no experience; they have not been long guardians, and I would not place much confidence or much weight in any opinions held by them. We are most unwilling to get any such power.

2859. Mr. *Maguire.*] The power of removal from one Irish union to other Irish unions?—We want to see no power of removal whatever in any part of Great Britain or Ireland.

2860. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Do you remember the case of a number of poor persons being sent to you either from a relief committee, or a union in the south of Ireland, for employment in the factories, and then afterwards becoming chargeable?—The sewed muslin trade became so profitable that it was difficult to get workers; they applied to one of the western unions; the persons getting them, it was understood, would take care that these persons should not become chargeable; some of them did subsequently become chargeable, and there were some complaints, but I do not think that we had any great reason to complain.

2861. There were some of them who became chargeable?—A few; but they would not remain long with us.

2862. Do you know what became of them afterwards?—They most likely discharged themselves so soon as they found they could get work.

2863. It has been stated in evidence to this Committee, that at the time of the Preston strike, a number of people were taken over from the factories in Belfast to work in Preston, and, afterwards becoming destitute, were sent back to Dublin; have you heard of any such case?—I am not aware that any parties were taken out of the factories, but I am aware that some were taken out of the workhouse.

2864. Had there been any communication with the Board of Guardians about it previously?—The only communication necessary would be an application to the master to know, "Have you any mill-workers of such and such a description?" He would say, "Yes." "Then muster them up;" and he would say, "Here is employment for you, if you wish to go." They then give the usual four hours' notice, and go. It is not necessary to bring such cases before the Board.

2865. Sir *G. Grey.*] There are several cases which you have brought before the Committee, I think, which occurred in 1846, 1847, 1848, and 1849?—Yes.

2866. Are you aware whether any large numbers of Irish persons left Belfast, as deck passengers, for Scotland during those years?—I am not aware, in those years especially. I know that every year there are large numbers going both to England and to Scotland, especially at harvest-time; others go to seek work; if work of a particular kind be scarce in Belfast, they will go elsewhere to seek for it.

2867. Are you aware whether, in 1847, any very large number of persons went as deck passengers from Belfast to the Clyde?—I think that there was a large number of passengers passing every where in that year. It was the year of the fever and famine; the fever, dysentery, and small-pox succeeding to famine.

2868. Which way do the steamboats carry most deck passengers; from Belfast to Scotland, or from Scotland to Belfast?—I cannot tell you; it is impossible for me to answer that question. The steamboat agent would be much better able to answer it.

2869. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know whether the fares were low at that time?—I cannot say.

2870. Sir *G. Grey.*] I think you stated, or it was stated in the petition, a copy of which you have read, that the present law operates to prevent persons carrying their labour to the best market; do you think that this power of removal from England and from Scotland does, in fact, deter Irishmen from going to those countries?—I do not know that it exactly deters them, but if they go, they go with the risk of the penal consequence in section 79 hanging over their head.

2871. Do you think that, practically, it operates to deter any persons going *boná fide* to seek employment either to Scotland or to England?—I cannot say what their feeling upon that subject is.

2872. Sir. *J. Young.*] Do you say that large numbers are sent from Scotland occasionally to Belfast?—At various times they are landed in large numbers.

2873. You state that a very small number, only 20, remain in the workhouse?—Very few.

2874. What becomes of the others?—They discharge themselves.

2875. Do they return to Scotland, or go elsewhere?—We cannot tell that.

2876. Then is it your opinion, that the permanent burthen from which Scotland is relieved by this law of removal is very small?—I think that this power of removal is not only injurious to the poor man, but to the country to which he is removed, and the country from which he is removed. It leaves them exposed to not merely the possibility, but what we know to be the fact, that parties will apply for relief in order to get a gratuitous passage or a removal. I state that on the authority of this fact, that parties coming into our workhouse as casual poor have, upon examination, been found to have considerable sums of money in their possession.

2877. Nearly all the poor that are removed from Scotland to Ireland pass to Belfast?—There must be a considerable proportion sent to Derry, but the great mass comes to Belfast.

2878. Supposing they had not been removed from Scotland, but had remained there, do you suppose that the proportion chargeable to the poor-rate in Scotland would have been greater than that chargeable to the poor-rate in Belfast?—I cannot answer that question.

2879. *Chairman.*] I asked you with respect to two or three of these cases; I will ask you generally with respect to the others: with regard to the statements which you have given to us, I presume that, in almost all cases, they are the statements of the paupers themselves?—Some are their verbal statements, and others taken upon oath.

2880. But in almost all cases they are the statements of the paupers themselves?—Certainly; we have no other means.

2881. Do you know anything of paupers having been sent back from Belfast to Scotland, who had been removed; have there been subscriptions, or anything of that sort, for the purpose of sending them back?—I will first deal with the question of the Board of Guardians. When a pauper presents himself, as he has frequently done, to the guardians, the chairman asks, "What do you want?" "I want to be sent back to Scotland, sir." "We cannot do such a thing; we will admit you if you please, but we have no power to send you back." Some would come into our house; others would walk away. As guardians we know

nothing further of them. That some have been sent back, I believe, if I can believe a gentleman's word who had something to do with sending them back.

2882. Has it been by private subscriptions, or how has it been done?—We had, in the year 1846-7, a subscription for the support of our own poor; we had also a subscription exceeding 7,000*l.*, termed the General Relief Fund for Ireland. Out of this fund grants were made to various places in the south and west, and at the winding-up there was a surplus. Portions of that were subsequently given to members of the relief committee, for the purpose of relieving paupers, and giving them food, and forwarding them to their own homes in Ireland, or sending them elsewhere, if they wished to go. I have a report of our relief committee, which perhaps would give you that information.

2883. Without going into detail, were there a good many sent back from Ireland to Scotland and England?—Very few.

2884. Has the occasional sending them back continued up to this time?—I believe so; but I cannot speak positively upon that.

2885. Colonel *Blair.*] And always from the same fund?—From the same fund.

2886. *Chairman.*] Has there been a fund of that sort in existence ever since the year 1847?—The surplus of it is not entirely expended, I believe, yet.

2887. Can you tell this Committee what proportion of it has been expended every year upon the specific object of sending back to Scotland or England paupers who have been removed under orders of removal?—There must have been a very small sum; but none has been expended for the specific purpose of sending them back, but for forwarding them to their homes, according to their own wish.

2888. Where they have been removed under orders of removal?—Without reference at all to whether they have been removed under orders of removal or not, but poor persons applying for relief to the relief committee.

2889. In a great many cases have they been persons who had been removed under orders of removal?—Very few.

2890. Colonel *Blair.*] I suppose when a pauper applies to be sent back to Scotland, some record is kept of the money given to him from this fund?—I was not a member of that committee, and therefore I cannot say the exact way in which they have carried out the details of it. If you will permit me, I will read an extract from a letter which Mr. Holden wrote upon this especial subject, with reference to some observations which had been made in a Scotch paper. He states, "Now, in point of fact, what we did was this: We never returned or sent any paupers to Scotland; but of the multitudes who applied to us, praying for assistance to enable them to go to the several places they wished to arrive at, we gave assistance to those who we thought were the greatest objects of charity, large numbers being refused. We never interfered to direct the course of any one, and our anxiety was, how we could best promote their own wishes consistently with the due application of the limited means at our disposal. Of the great mass of applicants, the vast majority passed into the interior, and very few returned to Scotland, though as far as we were concerned, they might have all gone to Scotland if they had so wished, and shown satisfactory grounds for proceeding thither."

2891. *Chairman.*] No distinction, so far as you know, was taken between persons who had come under orders of removal, and those who had not?—There was no question whatever when a person applied and said, "I wish to do so and so."

2892. Sir *G. Grey.*] Were the persons in a state of destitution; was the money given to them as charity because they were in a state of destitution?—In removing them from one part of Ireland to another, I believe they gave them a portion of food; and, so far as the railway went, they paid their fare by railway.

2893. My question had reference to the class of persons to whom this assistance was given; were they all persons in want?—So far as they could judge; it is perfectly possible that in some cases they may have been deceived, for I have mentioned already, that persons were admitted into our workhouses as casual poor, called tramps, yet having money.

2894. But was this relief given to persons chargeable to the poor-rates in the Belfast Union?—No, to any poor person; they thought it a legitimate application of the General Relief Fund for Ireland, that the surplus should be used in this way.

way. There was a report that Mr. Holden had stated, at a vestry meeting, that money was applied in a certain way, which I thought illegal; I wrote to him upon the subject; I may mention that certainly two, and perhaps three of the papers report him to have stated that the money was applied in forwarding the poor to Scotland or to England, and the other papers contain no such statement.

2895. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] The money raised by parochial assessment?—Yes. I will read what Mr. Holden is reported to have said at the vestry meeting, and then his reply. This paper gives it, the "Whig," "Chronicle," and "News Letter" do not report him as having said so; the "Belfast Telegraph," and, I believe, two other papers (I have not read it in them), do report him to have used these expressions. I understand that they had a stormy meeting; I was not present at it.

2896. Sir *G. Grey.*] What was the object of the meeting?—It was the usual vestry meeting for voting money for coffins for the poor, for the expenses of the officers of health, and for supporting deserted children.

2897. When was it held?—At Easter of this year. This took place at the adjourned meeting, a week after.

2898. *Chairman.*] Is there anything with reference to the subject into which we are now inquiring?—Yes. "A person has asked me, 'What do the officers of health do?' I, as one of them, beg to tell him that the money now voted is to be used for the purpose of removing paupers from one place to another; we assist them and give them food." That is what he is reported to have said. I wrote to him to know whether it was possible that he had said so, and whether such was really the case. I have here one of the papers in which the meeting is given, and he is not reported to have used any such expression. This is his reply, "I am in receipt of your favour of the 19th instant, relative to the newspaper reports of my statement, as to how the money was expended that is applotted by the vestry for the use of the officers of health, and I beg to say in reply, that there was an error in reporting my remarks in one of our newspapers. I never used the words that my portion of the money raised off the parish by the vestry was employed in sending away paupers; the statement I made was, in taking up beggars or vagrants; and, when confined at night, in giving them food according to the Act of George 3rd." Now, I may tell you that we have in Belfast, under the Act by which the Belfast Incorporated Charge Society exists, a power of taking the poor and confining them for 24 hours, and that the parish officers of health, under the Act 49th George 3rd, have a power of taking up and removing paupers beyond the parish, and the parish officers of health, acting under this, as appears from Mr. Holden, have occasionally exercised powers which perhaps would be more properly exercised under the vagrant law.

2899. Sir *G. Grey.*] Has that anything to do with the removal of these paupers back to England and to Scotland?—It is only to answer the objection which has been made, that public money voted by public assessment had been so applied.

2900. And you believe that no public money so voted has been so applied?—I believe there has been none so applied; I have applied to many churchwardens, and they all distinctly deny such a thing.

2901. *Chairman.*] With regard to these paupers who are sent from Ireland to England and Scotland, are they all able-bodied, or do they comprise among them infirm persons as well, or are the greater proportion of them?—I can only speak from my impression; I do not know, not being a member of that committee.

2902. What is your impression?—That none but those who would have some business in Scotland, or be able to support themselves, would seek to go.

2903. Colonel *Blair.*] In giving this money to a pauper, is any question asked of him as to where he wants to go to?—Yes; Mr. Holden states distinctly that he investigated closely as to the circumstances of the case.

2904. I understand you to say that the guardians were not aware of what became of these paupers?—The great mass of the paupers never come before the guardians at all; persons landed on our quays, or being in Belfast, apply to the relief committee, and say, "We wish to be removed to our own homes." Those cases never come before us; we know nothing of them; they occasionally apply to us to be forwarded, but we say, "We cannot expend a farthing of the funds in doing so; we will take you into the house." Some say they will go in, and others say they will not.

2905. This fund has nothing to do with the Board of Guardians, but I understand that there is still a fund, and that the pauper arriving from Scotland can apply to the fund, by which means he can return to that country by money

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received from it?—I believe there is still such a fund; I endeavoured to ascertain the exact amount of it, but the treasurer and secretary were in London, and I could not get possession of the books to see it.

2906. But they do return to Scotland with money received from such a fund?—They do return to Scotland, I will not say with money, but having either had money given them, or the passage paid for them; but Mr. Holden states that very few indeed have been so sent.

2907. Mr. *Maguire.*] Can you give the Committee an idea what was the amount of the surplus at any time?—Yes. I will read a report, dated 6th January 1849.

2908. Sir *G. Grey.*] Was that when the surplus was ascertained; had the immediate objects for which that fund had been raised been then accomplished, and was it then ascertained that a certain surplus remained, to be disposed of at the discretion of the administrators of the fund?—As I stated before, the money was raised for a general relief fund for the poor of Ireland generally; a fund distinct from that for our own poor. We had no Government relief committee; 7,085 *l.* 4 *s.* 4 *d.* was the gross sum subscribed as a general relief fund for Ireland, exclusive of our soup kitchen.

2909. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Subscribed in Belfast?—In Belfast; and some gentlemen not residing in Belfast subscribed; but I mean Belfast and the vicinity.

2910. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What was the balance of that in January 1849?—There follows a table showing the amount of the various grants, amounting to 6,779 *l.* 12 *s.*, and a balance still remained of 260 *l.* 6 *s.*

2911. Sir *G. Grey.*] In 1849?—In 1849. I see one of the grants was to the emigrants of the unfortunate vessel, the "Swatara."

2912. That was a grant out of the original fund, not out of the balance?—Out of the original fund; the Ladies' Industrial School, 100 *l.*

2913. You are speaking now of a grant out of the original fund?—Out of the original fund.

2914. Dealing with the balance only, are you aware whether any portion of that still remains?—There is still some balance remaining.

2915. Are you aware whether any fresh payments have been made towards that fund, in order to keep it alive for the purposes to which you have adverted?—Certainly not; not a penny.

2916. No fresh subscriptions have been received in addition to the surplus which existed in 1849?—No fresh subscriptions.

2917. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Then that 260 *l.* has lasted them the five years?—I am not a member of the committee; I give this from a public report made at a meeting.

2918. *Chairman.*] Is that the only fund, so far as you know, from which payment has been made for these purposes of sending back paupers to England or Scotland?—Yes.

2919. Sir *J. Young.*] Was the meeting to which you allude, at which this money was voted, a large one?—I believe the money was not voted at any meeting at all; the committee had the administration of it, and gave it where they pleased. A committee, perhaps of six, seven, eight, or ten, were the parties who disposed of it; not a general meeting at all; grants were made to the Day Asylum and the Night Asylum. Will the Committee allow me to refer to one other point? A committee of the Belfast Poor-law Guardians made a report on the subject of the intended law of settlement in March 1845; a reply was sent from the Poor-law Commissioners, stating that their attention having been drawn to the report, the matter should receive the consideration due to so important a subject, as the Commissioners were fully alive to the evils of the present laws of removal. We base our claim to relief upon that, and upon some other facts, considering that we have a right, and also that the Irish Poor-law was the result of the experience of England of the evils of the removal system; and that in all the amendments it has not been thought advisable to enact or to engraft upon it such a principle, and that the people of England themselves seem disposed or anxious to get rid of such an expensive power; we hope that that will be made applicable to Ireland as well.

2920. Sir *G. Grey.*] You are speaking now of the objection which you entertain to applying the law of settlement and removal to Ireland as between one parish or union in Ireland, and another parish or union in Ireland?—Certainly; we have had a good deal of correspondence.

2921. *Chairman.*]

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2921. *Chairman.*] Have you anything further to state?—This is a deposition given upon oath by Mr. Holden before our Poor-law Commissioners relative to removals, and I think it is referred to in some of these document to which I have alluded.

2922. Sir *G. Grey.*] What was Mr. Holden at the time he made that deposition?—He was one of the Board of Guardians; he has held three offices; a member of the Board of Guardians, one of the Health officers, and he was churchwarden for two years.

2923. Does that deposition bear upon the inquiry which this Committee is conducting?—It is his experience as one of the officers of Health as to the removals; but it is not a matter of much importance.

2924. *Chairman.*] Does it contain any facts in addition to those which you have stated?—They are, perhaps, stated much more fully and strongly than I could state them.

2925. Mr. *Maguire.*] With reference to the support of the public hospitals which you spoke of in Scotland, such as the dispensaries and infirmaries, and other hospitals, do you know what proportion of their support is derived from the subscription of the Board of Guardians in proportion to the grant from the Consolidated Fund?—My only information is an extract from the "Medical Times" of Saturday, May the 18th, 1850: "In the last Report of the Board of Supervision in Scotland, it is stated that Government gave 10,000 *l.* in aid of medical relief in that country; the sum expended last year being 33,000 *l.*; 3*d.* per head on the entire population." I give you the authority; I do not know whether it is correct or not.

2926. £.10,000 from the Consolidated Fund, and 23,000 *l.* from the other sources?—If this be correct.

2927. *Chairman.*] Are you aware of any other removals of paupers from Ireland to Scotland or England besides those which you have mentioned?—Not of paupers; but there were persons removed who had been inmates of our workhouse under peculiar circumstances, persons admitted, labouring under cholera, from the emigrant ship "Guiding Star," or their families, who were removed with them, who were under quarantine. These persons were not paupers, however, in any sense of the word; they got the option of going to their own homes or being sent to Liverpool to get a passage out to Australia from the owners of the vessel. Those who wished to return to their homes had their passage-money repaid to them through the agency of our emigration officer; those who wished to go back to Liverpool and get a passage out were returned there and got a free passage in the steamboat, so that they were conveyed to Liverpool without cost; and a certificate was given them from our emigration officer, on presenting which to the agents of the ship, they would get a passage out.

2928. Those are the only other cases in addition to what you have already given?—The only other cases that I am aware of.

2929. Sir *G. Grey.*] This paper, which you handed in just now, is in fact a copy of depositions, made by Mr. Holden, on the removal of poor from England and Scotland; before whom, and on what occasion, were these affidavits made by Mr. Holden?—Before Mr. Senior, our Poor-law Commissioner. There had been a good deal of discussion as to whether the parties had been properly or improperly removed from Scotland, and whether they had been returned again improperly to England and Scotland, and Mr. Holden, who was a person who had somewhat to do in the matter, made this deposition; it was forwarded, I think, to the Poor-law Commissioners.

2930. *Chairman.*] Will you read that paper?—"Depositions made by Mr. Holden, on the Removal of Poor from England and Scotland. Mr. John Holden, muslin manufacturer, on his oath, saith: For about the last 20 years I have acted gratuitously, and given up much of my time to the several local charities in Belfast, and I have acted as a member of the Relief and Soup-kitchens Committees of the town of Belfast since their formation in 1846, which were supported by voluntary contributions, without the aid of Government. These committees, at our town, last year, gave daily support to 15,000 people. In rough numbers, 5,000 of these had been in the town less than 18 months, attracted by these charities and public works. Out of the surplus of our funds are applied a portion to the removal of these strangers, and others, emigrants from England and Scotland. In all, we have removed from Belfast 6,045 persons since July

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1847, at a cost of 700 *l.* We gave food to the casual poor, and money when necessary, and paid their railway fare, or sent them by carts, towards their homes. All these were volunteers; but we have latterly punished persons found begging in the streets, by confinement for short periods, under a local Act. We are in the habit of sending persons employed by the relief committees to meet the steamers from England and Scotland, which bring paupers removed to Belfast, which parties deponent has invariably examined, about 2,500 in all, of which 2,300 are from Scotland. The English immigrants are usually well provided with food by the removing parochial authorities, and furnished with a removal order. Those removed from Edinburgh, Paisley, and Dundee, have sufficient bread and cheese for the voyage, and for their support on the day of landing. Paupers removed from Glasgow, on the contrary, invariably declare that they are unfurnished with food or money, and several apparently just discharged from hospital, and who make that declaration, and who arrive in too weak a state to travel on; and we have had to keep a few families for a day or two, to enable them to gain strength. In one case a widow lost one of her children immediately on landing, and she said at the coroner's inquest that she begged the authorities at Glasgow to allow her to remain for a short time, from the dangerous state of her children's health, which was refused. Several cases of persons removed by the Glasgow parochial authorities relapsed to fever on their landing here, and were obliged to be taken into hospital. (signed) *John Holden.* Sworn before me, at Belfast, January 19, 1848. (signed) *Edward Senior.*—Further Evidence of Mr. Holden. The result of my experience is that each pauper removed from Scotland compulsorily, or at his request, should be furnished by the parties so removing him with a removal order, stating the main facts of the evidence as given before the magistrates, similar to the English order, and also the amount and nature of relief given to enable the pauper to reach his place of destination, and to which should be appended a medical certificate as to his fitness to bear the exposure of the voyage as a deck passenger, and to undertake the journey to his home; and that he should further be supplied with means to convey him to his alleged home or birth-place; under the existing vagrant law, without such a pass, the pauper is here liable to be punished as a vagrant. (signed) *John Holden.* Sworn before me, at Belfast, January 19, 1848. (signed) *Edward Senior.*"

2931. Mr. *Maguire.*] Your evidence has been entirely confined to the number of persons removed from Scotland, who have become chargeable to your union; have you any means of knowledge, or can you form an idea, how many persons during the last year have been removed altogether who have been sent to Belfast, including those who have become chargeable to your union?—It would be impossible to give even an approximation to it. When the relief committee was in active operation we could have got such a return. I think Mr. Holden estimated it in the year 1849. This document should show in gross that the number was some 15,000, or 16,000.

2932. In what time?—In the course of a very few years; two or three years.

2933. What proportion of those were chargeable to the union for any time?—A very few, comparatively.

2934. Do you think, from your experience, that the proportion of those who are now sent to Belfast is very great, in proportion to those who are received into the union; that the proportion of those who never apply for relief to you is still very large?—It is; but not so large as before; as I mentioned, there has been an increase during the las ttwo months; the number in the two months, ending 25th of May, being 93, and the number in the 12 months, ending 25th of March, 191.

2935. That is of persons who have applied for relief?—And have been relieved.

2936. Can you form any idea as to the number of persons who have been actually landed on the quay from steamers from England or Scotland in the 12 months?—I could not even give an approximation to it.

2937. Do you think it is much larger than the number who have applied for relief?—Much larger.

2938. Is it four times more, or five times?—Perhaps eight times. I am but merely giving it as an opinion, without having any correct data to go upon.

2939. Mr. *J. Ball.*] You made a statement as to the mischief that might arise to

to the ratepayers in England and Scotland from persons asking for relief when they were desirous of obtaining a passage to Ireland; have you any knowledge on that subject?—I merely know that parties have applied for admission and have been received into our workhouse as casual poor, what we term tramps, and occasional sums of money have been found on them; in fact, the number of our casual poor was increasing.

2940. Are these persons who have come from England or Scotland?—Yes; the number was increasing until we applied a remedy.

2941. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What was that remedy?—We did two things disagreeable to their feelings; we washed them, and we worked them.

2942. Sir *G. Grey.*] And had those persons applied, to your knowledge, to get a removal from Scotch or English parishes?—Some of them; not all; but they do not come before the guardians in the ordinary way. The casual poor present themselves at the gate, and the master takes them in and puts them into the probationary ward or into the tramps' wards, and they remain a night, and they then discharge themselves. If they are to be regularly admitted into the workhouse they must come before the Board on the Board day, and go through a regular examination, and have their names entered in the application and relief book.

2943. And you believe that there have been persons landing from England or Scotland, and being at Belfast only on the way to their homes?—Yes; the same remark applies to their coming from one part of Ireland to another; of course it involves the question of people coming from England and Scotland in like manner.

2944. Colonel *Blair.*] Nearly all the cases which you have mentioned to-day with regard to Scotland, you look upon as cases not of illegality, but of hardship?—I do not enter into the question of illegality at all, because some cases which we have believed to be illegal, the authorities have decided to be otherwise; there were several cases, I conceived, of that description, for instance, the case of the boy Flanagan; we bring the case forward, leaving others to decide as to the illegality. There was also the case of the boy Stewart; the Board of Supervision state that they are not prepared to say that the removal there was illegal; they do not venture to say that it was not. There are many other cases where, if due inquiry had been made, and they had been searched into, no doubt it would have been decided that they were illegal; I believe many of them were so.

2945. But you consider them more cases of hardship?—I have brought them forward in the first instance as cases of hardship.

2946. Though no appeal is allowed in case of removal in Scotland, you would consider that in any case which has occurred in which a communication has taken place with the Board of Supervision in Scotland, they have attended to the representations made to them?—We have had no direct communication with them; any communication has been through the medium of the Poor-law Commissioners, and I have no doubt they pay all due attention to anything coming from the Commissioners.

Lunæ, 12° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Colonel Mure.
Sir John Trollope.	Sir John Young.
Mr. Liddell.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Archibald Hastie.	Mr. Maguire.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Stirling.

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Sir *John M'Neill*, called in; and Examined.

Sir *J. M'Neill.*

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2947. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you fill the office of Chairman of the Board of Supervision for the Relief of the Poor in Scotland?—Yes.

2948. How long have you held that office?—Since the formation of the Board in the autumn of 1845.

2949. Have you turned your attention to the subject of inquiry of this Committee, namely, the operation of the existing law, the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, relating to the removal of paupers from Scotland to England and Ireland?—I have.

2950. I believe you have had an opportunity of seeing the evidence which has been laid before this Committee?—I have.

2951. Will you state in the first place what the law now is upon the subject of these removals?—The Committee will perhaps permit me to state first, that our whole system of poor-law administration in Scotland is strictly parochial; settlement, taxation, and administration, are strictly limited to the bounds of the parish. We have two kinds of removals in Scotland, one the removal from parish to parish, the other the removal out of Scotland to England or Ireland.

2952. What we may call international removals?—International and interparochial. The law in respect to the removals out of Scotland is contained in the section of the statute referred to in the formation of this Committee.

2953. Sections 77, 78, and 79, of the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, appear to be the three sections relating to that subject?—Yes.

2954. And the whole of the law and practice is founded upon those sections of that statute?—It is. According to those provisions of the statute, all persons becoming chargeable in Scotland, who were born in England, Ireland, or the Isle of Man, and who have not gained a settlement in Scotland, are removable. Settlement in Scotland is acquired by persons not born in Scotland, by a residence of five years continuously in one parish, without during that time applying for or receiving parochial relief, or resorting to common begging.

2955. Is that the only head of acquired settlement in Scotland?—That is the only mode in which a person born in England or Ireland can acquire a settlement in Scotland.

2956. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You do not exclude the marriage of a foreign woman?—No; a woman may acquire a settlement by marriage in Scotland with a Scotchman; but a man born in England or Ireland can acquire a settlement in Scotland only by residence. That settlement acquired by residence may be lost by non-residence. A continuous non-residence of more than four years will lose the settlement. The statute requires that for the retention of the settlement, the person who has acquired it should reside one year out of every five years in the parish in which he has acquired a settlement. If, therefore, he is more than four years out of the parish, it becomes impossible for him to comply with the condition which the statute annexes to the retention of a settlement.

2957. *Chairman.*] And on the completion of such a period exceeding four years the settlement is finally lost; it is not capable of revival afterwards?—It is not capable of being revived unless by a new residence of five years.

2958. Colonel *Blair.*] If a man resides two years, and then goes away for, say, one year, and comes back and resides the other two in the parish, will he lose his

his settlement?—He does not acquire a settlement unless he resides continuously for five years.

2959. I understand you to say that the way in which he loses his settlement is by a continuous non-residence of more than four years after having acquired a settlement?—He must reside one year of the next five in the parish, it matters not what one year.

2960. Mr. *Dunlop.*] And so if he becomes an object of relief at the end of four years and a week's absence, he loses his settlement absolutely?—He does.

2961. You are aware that a good deal of difference of opinion existed on that point, and that it has only been settled by a construction of the Court, and the result is, that a man loses a settlement within a shorter time than the law allows him to acquire a new one?—It is so.

2962. *Chairman.*] That is now the ascertained law of Scotland?—That is the law as the statute is interpreted by the Courts.

2963. Will you proceed?—I am prepared to state to the Committee the number of persons born in England and in Ireland who have acquired a settlement in Scotland and become chargeable during each of the eight years, commencing with 1846, and ending with 1853.

2964. I believe, since you became aware of the appointment of this Committee, you have taken pains to obtain information for the purpose of being laid before the Committee?—After becoming aware of the appointment of this Committee, I called for returns from every parish; I have received returns from every parish in Scotland, excepting 12; those are mostly remote parishes in distant parts of the country, the returns from which I think could hardly affect in any degree the general result.

2965. You have all the important parishes, then?—There are 882 parishes in Scotland, from all of which I have returns, excepting 12; and those 12 I think would not affect the general result in any sensible degree.

2966. Have you that result exhibited in the form of a table?—Yes.

2967. That is now lying before you, I believe?—It is.

2968. What is the heading of the table?—The heading of the table is, a General Abstract of the Returns, showing, first, "The number of persons born in Ireland and relieved in Scotland, including dependants;" secondly, "The number of these persons who have been removed to Ireland at the cost of the parish, by warrant or by voluntary arrangement." The Committee is no doubt aware that our statute expressly sanctions a removal without warrant, with the consent of the party removed.

2969. Mr *Dunlop.*] That is distinguished in your return?—It is. The next head of the return is, "Persons removed, and again chargeable to the same parish." In respect of that head of the return I have to observe that persons removed to Ireland or England, and again becoming chargeable to the same parish, are liable to be prosecuted and imprisoned as vagrants.

2970. *Chairman.*] I believe that is under the 79th section of the statute?—Yes; therefore, of the persons who do return, a very small proportion naturally return to the parish to which they were formerly chargeable; I have no means of showing how many return altogether; I have only the means of showing the number who return to encounter the risk of being prosecuted as vagrants. The next head of the return is, "Not removable, having gained a settlement in Scotland." The next head of the return is, "Had not gained a settlement, but were not removed;" that is, they were removable, but were not removed.

2971. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Having been relieved?—The whole number relieved is given in the first column, and is accounted for in the subsequent columns; the whole of the columns have reference solely to persons relieved. The last head of the return in respect to Ireland, is "A return of the persons who ceased to be chargeable when threatened with removal to Ireland." The return shows the number of English chargeable, in short, shows in respect to England the same things under the same heads as I have stated in respect to Ireland. A third return has reference to our interparochial removals; the headings are, "Became chargeable in other parishes;" "Removed to the parish from other parishes;" "Residing in other parishes;" "Ceased to be chargeable when required to remove;" "Removed to the parish from England;" "From Ireland." I produce this return with reference to the inquiry of what number of persons born in Ireland, with their dependants, had become

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become chargeable in Scotland who were found to have acquired a settlement there.

2972. *Chairman.*] By the expression "with their dependants," do you mean with their children?—Yes.

2973. Are those what we should call unemancipated children?—Unemancipated children. Those are persons who are by law removable, if they have not acquired a settlement. The number of persons chargeable in Scotland who would have been removable to Ireland if they had not acquired a settlement, but who are not removable because of their having acquired a settlement, that is, the annual average for eight years of such persons is 13,283. There are therefore, in Scotland, 13,283 paupers who have ceased to be removable, because of their having acquired a settlement in Scotland.

2974. Are these Irish?—Exclusively Irish; this return has reference solely to Ireland. The whole number chargeable, that is, the average annual number of Irish paupers chargeable in Scotland for the last eight years, has been 30,905; there are then 30,905 persons chargeable, of whom 13,283 have acquired a settlement, and are therefore not removable; leaving 17,622 as the average annual number chargeable in Scotland, who are removable.

2975. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Do these numbers include the children?—They do. The average annual number removed by warrant is 636, out of 17,622. The average annual number removed by voluntary arrangement is 5,216.

2976. *Chairman.*] You mean such voluntary arrangement as the statute sanctions?—Yes, with the consent of the parties. The whole annual average number of removals by warrant and by voluntary arrangement, is 5,852, leaving 11,770 who are removable, but are not removed.

2977. Mr. *Liddell.*] With respect to the 636 who are stated to have been removed upon the annual average, as contradistinguished from the larger number removed by voluntary arrangement; are those removed by compulsory force against their will?—They are removed by warrant.

2978. *Chairman.*] That I believe is a warrant grantable either by justices or by the sheriff in Scotland, is it not?—It is grantable either by justices or by the sheriff. And I am desirous to state to the Committee, that after having made inquiry as to the manner in which these warrants are obtained, I am in a position to state that in all considerable towns those warrants are invariably obtained in open court after the deposition of each pauper, or each head of a family has been taken; that the depositions are invariably read over to the deponents; that if they do not appear entirely to understand them, pains is taken to explain them to them, not by the inspector of the poor who brings them there for removal, but by the justices; that in country parishes occasions have arisen in which warrants have been obtained from justices in their own houses; that those are extremely rare; but that in all the considerable towns the system is invariably to obtain the warrant in open court, taking the deposition of the party to be removed, and taking pains to make the party understand and correct the deposition after it has been taken down.

2979. So far as you know, has that careful practice been adopted during the whole of the time of the operation of this Act?—So far as I am aware, it has been in operation during the whole time; I believe it to have been in operation during the whole time.

2980. Mr. *Liddell.*] So that the Committee may infer that these warrants are never issued except with the most strict observance of the principles of justice, and in consonance with the principles of humanity, as regards the parties about to be removed?—As regards the principles of humanity, there is a provision in the statute requiring that no pauper shall be removed out of Scotland, unless there shall previously have been obtained a medical certificate stating that he can be removed without danger; that certificate is invariably obtained; it is attached to every warrant.

2981. *Chairman.*] In the 77th section, which gives the power of removal, that is annexed as a condition?—It is.

2982. Colonel *Mure.*] Do these numbers, which you state comprise the whole of the paupers of Scotland, do they include the English, Irish, and Scotch paupers?—They are exclusively Irish paupers, and removals to Ireland.

2983. With respect to these regulations, which you describe as being habitually enforced, as to taking the depositions, and explaining the nature of them, and making

making the paupers fully aware of them, are those made by statute, or are they voluntary on the part of your Board?—They are carried out under rules issued by the Board of Supervision for the purpose.

2984. *Chairman.*] I believe the statute requires that the person chargeable is to be brought before the justices or sheriff, who are "to examine such person or any witness on oath, touching the place of the birth or last legal settlement of such person, and to take such other evidence as may by them be deemed necessary"?—Precisely so; and with a view to facilitate the carrying out of that arrangement, the Board of Supervision issued rules.

2985. What is the date of them?—The first rule that was issued (it is rather a recommendation than a rule) was on the 29th of January 1846.

2986. The Act itself I observe came into operation on the 4th of August 1845?—The Board of Supervision met for the first time in September 1845.

2987. That Board is constituted under this same Act?—Under this Act. The first measures which we had to take were for putting in motion the parochial Boards, with a view to their putting themselves in a position to carry out this new statute. In a great number of them, members had to be elected under the statute; inspectors had to be appointed under the statute; we had to issue rules and regulations for the elections, also rules for the duties of the inspector. The construction and putting in motion of that machinery occupied some months; and on the 29th of January, as soon as those measures had been taken, one of our first proceedings was to take measures for the protection of paupers removed out of Scotland. The Committee has been led to suppose that those regulations were issued in consequence of complaints from the Poor Law Commissioners in Ireland; that is a mistake. The earliest complaint from the Poor Law Commissioners in Ireland, or rather from the Poor Law Commissioners in England, in respect of removals to Ireland, which I can find, is dated in 1848, two years after this regulation was issued. It was therefore a spontaneous act, having no reference to any previous complaint.

2988. Have you a copy of this regulation of January 1846?—I have. This is a circular to inspectors on the removal of English and Irish paupers.

2989. Is that a Parliamentary Paper from which you are about to read?—It is our first Annual Report laid before Parliament.

2990. Then this which you are now going to state to the Committee has been reported to Parliament in your first Annual Report?—It has been before Parliament since 1846.

2991. Will you have the goodness to give us the page of your first Annual Report where this is to be found?—Page 26 of the Appendix to the first Annual Report of the Board of Supervision: "Sir, I have received instructions from the Board of Supervision to transmit to you the following recommendations in regard to the removal of English and Irish paupers who may become chargeable upon your parish. First, that with reference to the 77th section of the Act 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, when it may be necessary to remove English or Irish paupers from Scotland, care should be taken that they are removed in such manner as may not be injurious to their health. Second, that in cases of women and children, persons recently recovered from sickness, and the weak and infirm of all descriptions, more especially during a voyage by sea in the winter season, such accommodation should be provided as may protect them from injury by exposure to inclement weather. Third, that in all cases such poor persons as are removed by sea should be conveyed to such port with which there is a regular communication as may, on a consideration of the whole circumstances, afford paupers the greatest facility and convenience for speedily arriving at the place of their ultimate destination. I have to request that you will take an early opportunity of submitting this letter, with the foregoing recommendations, to the parochial Board of your parish."

2992. With reference to one passage there, does your statute contain any specification of ports to which the parties are to be sent?—None at all.

2993. The English statute, you are aware, does?—I am aware it does; but the section of the statute to which you have referred contains no specification of ports at all.

2994. The removal, I observe, is simply to be "by sea or land, by and at the expense of the complaining parish, to England or Ireland, or the Isle of Man, respectively"?—Exactly.

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2995. Mr. *Liddell.*] Then I suppose you take care yourselves to remove them to those ports which are nearest to their native place, upon the evidence which you receive from the parties?—Individually, as the Board of Supervision, we have nothing personally to do with the removal: we issue regulations or recommendations to the parochial Board, and it is for them to attend to them.

2996. *Chairman.*] That was the first regulation upon the subject?—That was the first regulation; but even prior to that, we issued rules relating to duties of inspectors of the poor. Rule 23 is at page 19 of the Appendix to our First Annual Report.

2997. When were those regulations for inspectors issued?—Those regulations for inspectors were approved by Sir James Graham, as Secretary of State, on the 20th of October 1845: "When a poor person who has become chargeable on a parish is to be removed to England, Ireland, or the Isle of Man, the inspector shall in every case, before removal, obtain a certificate on soul and conscience, by a regular medical practitioner, setting forth that the health of such person, and that of his family (if he have any), is such as to admit of his being removed." We were not content with inferring that the inspector would know the statute and act upon it, but we specially directed his attention to this provision of the statute in a rule addressed to himself.

2998. The first direction in point of time which you gave was that to the inspectors, in October 1845?—Yes.

2999. And in January 1846, you issued your directions to all the parochial authorities upon the subject?—Yes; supplying what appeared to be an omission in the statute with respect to the ports of removal, and giving general directions as to the treatment of paupers under removal.

3000. Were you going on to state any subsequent rules?—I was going on to make a statement with reference to the warrants. In our Third Annual Report, in the Appendix, pages 9, 10, and 11, will be found the form of warrant which we required our inspectors to use, and which begins by setting forth the sections of the statute under which removals are sanctioned, and contains a petition to the justices or to the sheriff on the part of the inspector of the poor, praying for the removal of those parties; a form of medical certificate to be given on soul and conscience, and signed by a regular medical practitioner; and finally, a deposition by the party to be removed, which sets out with this, "Deposition of the said , who, being solemnly sworn, declares that ."

3001. These are forms which you framed and recommended, I suppose, for adoption?—The inspectors being under our orders, we required them to use these forms. This deposition is required "to be signed by the party and by the sheriff, and if other parole evidence is taken, substance to be inserted by the sheriff, and similarly attested." The same applies to the justices: "to be signed by the party and justices; and if other parole evidence is taken, substance to be inserted by justices, and similarly attested." Then it concludes with a form of order of removal founded upon those previous documents, being signed by the justices.

3002. There is a form given in the statute?—There is.

3003. Is yours the statutory form?—"We, two of the justices of the peace of the county of , having considered the petition and certificate, and the declaration of the said , [and farther proof if any led], find the facts set forth in the petition proved, and we do hereby order and adjudge , who has become and is now actually chargeable to the parish of , to be removed with his wife and his children, and conveyed to , in pursuance of the provisions of the Act 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, s. 77."

3004. You have all the words of the statute, and you introduce some other words?—We introduce those other words as a safeguard, to ensure a proper consideration of the deposition of the parties and of the evidence.

3005. What was the date at which you issued this order of which you are now speaking?—That was issued on the 20th April 1848.

3006. Was there any regulation issued subsequently, to which you wish to call the attention of the Committee?—There have been no regulations issued, as far as I can recollect, subsequent to that date, having immediate reference to the removal of Irish paupers. Regulations were issued having reference to passes which were in the habit of being granted to paupers passing from parish to parish in Scotland,

Scotland, and which we forbade; but those regulations have no reference whatever to removals out of Scotland.

3007. Have you any regulation at all affecting the subject of a voluntary arrangement?—We have no such regulation; that is a matter of arrangement between the parish and the pauper; but a case occurred in which an Irish pauper was removed voluntarily, with his own consent and by his own desire, from Dundee to Edinburgh, on his way to Ireland. On his arrival in Edinburgh, it was reported to us that he was not in a condition to proceed. We thereupon instituted an inquiry, and found that Matthew Mickleroy and his family had been removed from Dundee at their own request, but that it was extremely doubtful whether he and some members of his family had been in a state of health to move; whereupon this letter was addressed to the inspector of Dundee.

3008. What are you reading from?—I am reading from the Second Annual Report of the Board of Supervision, Appendix, page 91. I ought not to have called it a letter to the inspector, it was a Minute of the Board, dated 18th March 1847: "A letter from the inspector of poor of Dundee, dated 13th March 1847, as to the case of Matthew Mickleroy and family, and with reference to the complaint of the parochial Board of Edinburgh, which was before the Board at last meeting, was read. The Board was of opinion that it was the duty of the inspector of Dundee to have obtained a medical certificate, stating that Mickleroy and his family were in a fit condition to be removed before he made himself in any way accessary to their removal, and directed the secretary to warn the inspector that the Board required a strict observance of the rule on this subject, and would visit with censure any deviation from it." The inspector of Dundee's letter, explaining the circumstances, is as follows: "I am favoured with your letter of yesterday's date, and in explanation as to the removal of Matthew Mickleroy's family, I have only to state that on the 25th ult., one of Mickleroy's sons called at my office, and stated the case of the family. From his report, it appeared that the family came to Dundee about three months before that date; that when they left Ireland, the family were possessed of 4 *l.*; that this had been all expended, except 9 *s.*, and the family were desirous of being sent back to Ireland; that they were ready to proceed; but that his father was not then able to go; and it was arranged that when his father was able to be removed, the whole family would be sent to Ireland. Next morning, Mickleroy's eldest son, John, called again at my office, and stated that his father was able to proceed, and that the whole family were on board the steamer, which was then about to sail. I accordingly paid their passage to Edinburgh, and granted the usual orders on the city workhouse, Edinburgh, and Town's Hospital, Glasgow, to pay their expenses to Ireland. I have only further respectfully to add, that Matthew Mickleroy and his family, of their own accord, and without my knowledge or consent, went on board the steamer, and it was on their own report that they were able to undertake the journey that I acted." Now that was the statement which was before the Board when they made the minute which I have read. We did not consider that statement satisfactory. We were of opinion that the inspector ought not to have made himself in any way accessary to the removal of a pauper, even by his own desire, without having first satisfied himself, by medical examination, that he was in a proper condition to proceed on his journey.

3009. What other inferences do you deduce from the table which is now lying before you?—One inference which I think it important to bring to the notice of the Committee is this, or rather one fact. The number of persons removable, but not removed, on the annual average was 11,770. The number actually removed at the cost of the Scotch parishes, either voluntarily or by warrant, was 5,852. The proportion removed to the number removable was as one in three; so that so far from, as it has been represented, removing every person, however short a time he may have been in the receipt of relief, and taking every opportunity of seeking removal, our parochial Boards have exercised an amount of forbearance which, I think, extremely creditable to them; they have removed only one in three of the Irish paupers whom they could have legally removed. I regret that any statement calculated to produce irritation on the part of persons in Ireland should have been made, and I regret that any statement should have been made calculated to produce resentment on the part of the parochial Boards in Scotland, who, I think, have acted with great forbearance. The whole number removable, it will be observed, was 17,622; the number actually removed was

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5,852. The number removable, and not removed, was 11,770. The number removed is to the number removable as one is to three.

3010. Will you proceed with any other observations which you have to make upon that head?—Another observation which I have to make upon the return is this, that the number of Irish chargeable in Scotland who have acquired a settlement, including dependants, is 13,283; that is the number who have received relief. Taking the whole of Scotland—Scotch, English, and Irish, the proportion of paupers and their dependants to the population is 1 in 15; multiplying 13,283 by 15, would give 199,245 as the number of Irish persons who have acquired a settlement in Scotland; but the proportion of paupers to the population amongst the Irish is very much larger than amongst the other portions of our population. I conclude, without venturing to assert it as a thing ascertained—my impression is that the proportion of paupers in the Irish population will be nearly 1 in 8, instead of 1 in 15. The number who have become chargeable, and who have acquired a settlement, multiplied by 8, would give for the Irish population who have acquired a settlement in Scotland, a number of only 106,264. I do not state this proportion of 1 in 8 as a thing ascertained, it is my own estimate of the numbers. It would appear, therefore, that the Irish have largely availed themselves of the facilities afforded by our law for acquiring a settlement in Scotland.

3011. Have you any other observations arising from that table which you wish to bring before the Committee?—I may state, that amongst the persons born in Ireland who have acquired a settlement in Scotland, there are a considerable number of a class of whom our parishes are much inclined to complain. For my own part I am not inclined to join in that complaint. These persons consist of the aged parents of persons who have moved from Ireland to Scotland, who have occupied themselves industriously and settled themselves in Scotland, and who send for their parents and bring them over. Those aged persons are maintained by their families until they have been long enough in Scotland to entitle them to a settlement, and then in most cases they become chargeable.

3012. You have found that to be so, in fact?—We know that to be the fact; I do not complain of it, because although it throws what is perhaps an undue burthen upon our parishes, it arises from a feeling so natural, so proper, so good in itself, that I should be very sorry to throw any impediment in the way of their following that practice.

3013. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Is there no power in the Scotch law to oblige the children of such parents to support them if they are able?—There is. They are by law bound to support them if they are able; but when they are taken into court to be compelled to do so, we find practically that our judges are very little disposed to compel a labouring man with a family, upon ordinary wages, to support his parents.

3014. Colonel *Mure.*] The practice to which you allude is strictly within the provisions of the statute, so that, in fact, the thing, however much it may be complained of, is that which those active labourers are perfectly entitled to do?—Yes; still it is made the subject of complaint.

3015. Mr. *Liddell.*] And, in point of fact, it does throw an undue burthen upon the Scotch parishes?—It does throw a burthen upon them, which they consider unfair, if not illegal; but for the reasons which I have stated, I do not personally make it a ground of complaint.

3016. Mr. *J. Ball.*] In the case of a Scotch labourer who should be unable to support his parents, and should allow them to become chargeable to the parish, there would be an equal indisposition?—Precisely the same; there is no distinction whatever.

3017. Does it appear, then, that there is any sound distinction to be drawn between the cases of the two labourers, each of them making himself useful, and earning his bread in the country, and each of them having recourse to the parish to obtain support for his aged parents?—I think as long as there are different laws in England, Scotland, and Ireland, it will always be regarded a hardship when persons who have given the whole of their labour to Ireland, as long as they have been able to labour, come over to become chargeable to Scotland when they are no longer able to give us any labour.

3018. Sir *J. Trollope.*] But are those cases numerous?—They are not very numerous, but still there are a considerable number; they are very common in Ayrshire, on the coast, where there are a good many of the Irish settled, and where the facility of coming over is very considerable. They are more rare upon our east

east coast in Edinburgh; and in East Lothian they are more rare; but still we find them everywhere to a certain limited extent.

3019. But, in your practical experience, have not you generally found that the Irish are very much disposed to take care of their own kindred in their old age?—It is to that alone that you can attribute their making the exertion which they have made. It is upon the ground of their attachment to their kindred, and the good feeling which is evinced by their desire to provide for their parents, that I am not disposed to object. They must maintain them for five years before they can become chargeable, and that implies a very considerable amount of exertion on the part of a poor man; and if he has love enough for his parents, and attachment enough to them to make that exertion for five years, our parishes must bear the consequences; I am not going to complain of it.

3020. *Chairman.*] Is there any other inference which you wish to deduce from that table, and to bring before the Committee?—There is one other fact which I think it may be right that I should state to the Committee, and which, in making an analysis of this return, struck me very much, namely, the immense proportion of removals of all kinds that take place from the considerable towns, and the comparatively insignificant number of removals that take place from country parishes. That has reference not merely to removals to Ireland, but to the interparochial as well as the international removals. I consider it important, in this point of view, that it implies a tendency in pauperism to gravitate towards the towns, which appears to me to require something to counteract it. I will first state to the Committee the total number of removals, both international and interparochial, in Scotland during the last eight years. All my returns are for eight years, because, as the Board of Supervision was only instituted in 1845, we have no reliable returns antecedent to 1846. The total number of removals from and in Scotland in 1846–7 was 8,453; that includes all our interparochial removals; of these there were removed from the towns of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Leith, Glasgow, Paisley, and Greenock, 7,510; leaving for all the other parishes in Scotland, 943. In 1847–8, the total number of removals was 13,733; from these six towns there were removed in that year 11,587; leaving for all the other parishes in Scotland, 2,146. In 1848–9, the total for Scotland was 9,396; for those six towns, 7,849; leaving for all other parishes, 1,547. In 1849–50, the total number of removals for Scotland was 6,306; for these six towns, 5,446; leaving for all other parishes, 860. In 1850–51 the total number of removals for Scotland was 5,102; for those six towns, 4,474; for all other parishes, 628. In 1851–2, the total number of removals for Scotland was 5,253; for those six towns, 4,569; for all other parishes, 684. Finally, for 1852–3, for all Scotland, 2,415; for those six towns, 1,867; for all other parishes, 548. The population of those six towns in 1851 was 787,577; the population of all the other parishes was 2,101,165. The proportion of the removals to the population in 1852-3 was, in the parishes of the six towns, 1 in 421·84; and the proportion in all other parishes was 1 in 3834·24. The same is true, separating the Irish removals from the other removals. The following are the removals to Ireland in 1853. From the county of Lanark in the year 1853 there were removed by warrant 44 to Ireland; by voluntary arrangement, 793; of these there were removed from the parishes of the city of Glasgow alone 42 by warrant; 681 voluntarily; leaving two by warrant, and 112 by voluntary arrangement for all the rest of the county. In the two parishes of Old and New Monkland, also, densely populated parishes, there were, by voluntary arrangement, removed 100; so that, speaking of the parishes of the city of Glasgow, and the two parishes of Old and New Monkland, there remain for all the rest of the county of Lanark two removals by warrant, and 12 by voluntary arrangement.

3021. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Gorbals and the Barony, I presume, are included in the city of Glasgow?—Yes, the city of Glasgow, Barony, Gorbals and Govan. From the county of Edinburgh in 1853, there were removed to Ireland by warrant, 202; by voluntary arrangement, 55. Of these there were removed from the parishes of Edinburgh and Leith, namely, Canongate, City Parish, North Leith, South Leith, and St. Cuthbert's, 194 by warrant, and 55 by voluntary arrangement, leaving for all the other parishes in the county of Edinburgh eight removed by warrant, and none by voluntary arrangement. In the county of Forfar there were removed in 1853, one by warrant, and 83 by voluntary arrangement. Of these, there were removed from the two parishes of Dundee, one by warrant, and 80 by voluntary arrangement, leaving for all other parishes three by

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voluntary arrangement. I need not trouble the Committee with going further. I have gone through all the counties from which any considerable number of removals have taken place, whether interparochial or international, and I invariably find the same result.

3022. Mr. *Liddell.*] What is the reason of the remarkable disproportion which exists in Edinburgh between those removed by warrant and those by voluntary arrangement, as compared with all the other parts of Scotland?—Simply this, that the Parochial Board of Edinburgh have systematically proceeded to remove nearly all by warrant; they remove by warrant all who do not apply to be sent back; it is their system.

3023. *Chairman.*] Is there any other inference from the table which you think it desirable to bring before the Committee?—Before leaving this subject, I should like to be permitted to state, that having looked at the cases of alleged grievance, in respect of removals from Scotland, appearing in the evidence that has been given before this Committee, I find that a very large majority of them are cases which have already been the subject of correspondence between the Poor Law Commissioners and the Board of Supervision.

3024. That correspondence has been returned to the House of Commons, has it not?—I believe so; I find that the cases which appear on the evidence before the Committee are all old acquaintances, with few exceptions. They have all been investigated by the Board of Supervision, and I regret either that the Poor Law Commissioners of Dublin appear not to have communicated these explanations to the Board of Guardians of Belfast, or that the Board of Guardians of Belfast having received those explanations, have thought themselves entitled to put before this Committee the original statement of the pauper, without any of the explanation which was given.

3025. Are you referring now to the cases which were mentioned by Dr. M'Gee?—Yes; amongst those is especially a case from Haddington, in which it is alleged that a woman's house was broken open, and that she was forcibly removed to Ireland, the inspector standing by to see her house broken open. Now one material fact which came out on the investigation instituted by the Board of Supervision, and which has not been alluded to, is this, that this was a second removal; the woman had been removed before, and had come back again. But I have further to state, that it came out on the explanations that she had no house of her own; she was in a lodging belonging to the parochial board; her door was not broken open, but it appears that she resisted an entrance into their own house of the parties who had lodged her there.

3026. Is that the case of Catherine M'Ewan, referred to in Questions 2763 and 2765?—Exactly so. I have further to state, in respect to that case, and that is the circumstance which has fixed it in my memory, that when the investigation was completed, I had to consider with reference to the depositions of Catherine M'Ewan at Belfast, whether she ought not to be prosecuted for perjury; I finally resolved not to recommend her prosecution for perjury, not from any doubt of obtaining a conviction, but from the expense and inconvenience that would attend the proceeding. Amongst the cases which have been the subject of correspondence between the Poor Law Commissioners in Ireland and the Board of Supervision, is one case, the name of which I have not got, but it can be obtained, in which a woman was removed from Glasgow five times, and five times sent back again.

3027. Is this last a case which has been mentioned before this Committee in any way?—I do not know whether it has or not; I am not quite sure; but the correspondence in respect to it must be before the House of Commons, because it must be in that mass of correspondence which has been referred to. The woman denied the fact upon oath of her having been removed five times, and the inspector produced the five warrants.

3028. Do you remember to what port the removal was in that case?—I think to Belfast, but I would rather not state positively, because I can get access to the papers; the papers are in existence, and I can obtain the information.

3029. You can perhaps furnish the Committee with the name of the person, and the particulars?—Yes, if no other person should be examined before the Committee who can furnish the information. I would further remark, that I have here the circumstances of a case which attracted my notice on going over the returns from which this table was prepared; I observed in a parish a woman with two children removed, and again chargeable in the same parish, with a note by the inspector, saying that she had been removed several times, and had always come

come back again; I wrote for the particulars, and he says, "I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th of May, and in reference to the markings in red ink on my letter of the 4th of May, I have, in answer, to state that the pauper states that she came to Glasgow about 26 years ago from Ireland, and has gained no settlement whatever in Scotland." The fact is, she is a vagrant. "About five years ago she was removed to Ireland by the parish of Innerleithen," that is a parish on the Tweed, "and returned to Scotland, and became a burthen here; this Board ordered her removal in 1853, but she again returned; and, becoming chargeable again, was removed in March of this year, and has again returned, after being five weeks in Ireland."

3030. Mr. *Maguire.*] With what object do you give the Committee that last case?—My object in giving it is to show the facility afforded to paupers legally removed to Ireland for getting back.

3031. Colonel *Blair.*] Did she each time return at her own expense?—A pauper cannot be presumed to have the means of returning.

3032. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you any further particulars in reference to that pauper's case; did any members of her family reside in Scotland?—I have no particulars, except that she was a vagrant who was removed; who had been 26 years resident in Scotland, but was removed from Innerleithen to Ireland; returned to Peebles; was again removed from Peebles; returned to Peebles; was a third time removed from Peebles, and a third time came back again.

3033. Does your information go to the extent that she was 26 years a vagrant in Scotland?—Yes.

3034. Having no employment during that time?—As to her employment, I cannot say; she was 26 years in Scotland, and she acquired no settlement; she did not reside for five years in any parish.

3035. And that is what you call a vagrant?—No, I have other information on which I found the opinion that she was a vagrant; it is founded upon the statement of the inspector of the poor, who inquired into her case.

3036. Do you call a person a vagrant who has been legally removed from Scotland and comes back again?—Certainly; according to law that person is a vagabond.

3037. Would you call a person who had supported herself by her industry, say for four years, who had obtained no bar to removal, and who was removed, and came back again, a vagrant?—Certainly.

3038. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed with any other case to which you wish to call the attention of the Committee?—I have no other case; I do not wish to draw the attention of the Committee to any particular case, but I have to state generally, that the number who have returned and again become chargeable even to the same parish, as stated in this return, thereby incurring the penalty of imprisonment, appears to me to be considerable. There are here of persons in these eight years who have returned to the same parish ten, the annual number is but one; now, considering that those persons came to the parish liable to be prosecuted and imprisoned, and considering also the information which we have as to paupers who have been removed from one parish returning to another, I am entitled to say that the number of paupers removed who return to Scotland is very considerable; and I find in the evidence which has been given before this Committee, that benevolent parties in Ireland admit having furnished means which would enable those paupers to return to Scotland. It appears to me that that is inevitable, that it is a moral necessity. A good deal has been said of the cruelty of removals. I confess it appears to me that the law which forbids the removals is a much more cruel law than the law that permits them. Take the case of a Scotchman who goes to Ireland to work at Limerick or at Cork, and is there struck down by disease or accident, and permanently disabled from earning his livelihood, what happens to him? That man, if he is permanently disabled, can never see his native country again; he is banished for life. If he attempts to move from the union workhouse at Limerick or at Cork, and to make his way to the coast, he commits an offence; he is seized and brought back, and he remains for the rest of his life, if he is permanently disabled, a banished man and a prisoner. Now, I say, that the cruelty of removing a man to his native place when he is disabled and destitute, is trifling compared with the cruelty of detaining him in a distant place whether he will or not, disabling him from the possibility of ever setting foot in his native place, or of ever seeing the face of a person who knows him. I therefore say, that I quite understand why it is that funds

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have been raised in Ireland to pass persons on to their native places in Ireland, or to pass them back to Scotland. It is a moral necessity which compels benevolent men to do what the law forbids; the law forbids removals; they feel the moral necessity as well as the pecuniary advantage of doing what that law forbids. The removals are forbidden by law in Ireland; practically they are carried out by private charity in evasion of the law. I therefore say that it is the stringency of that law that compels benevolent men in Ireland to evade the law, and to effect removals which the law has said shall not be effected.

3039. Do you know anything yourself of the sources from which persons have been enabled to return to Scotland from Ireland?—I can only state that, upon what I consider very questionable authority, and that is the declarations and depositions of the paupers who have returned from Ireland, and who repeatedly state that they were furnished with funds by the poor-law authorities in Ireland. That statement I do not believe; it has been denied, and I have no doubt that it has been correctly denied, but I believe that other parties, under the pressure which I have described, under that sense of moral obligation to evade the law, have, from their private funds, provided the means for those persons either to go to their own place in Ireland, or to come back to Scotland.

3040. Have you any means of forming an opinion whether there are many persons born in Ireland, but residing in Scotland, who live by mendicity, and decline parochial relief because they thereby become liable to be removed?—I have.

3041. What information can you give the Committee upon that point?—I have returns of the number of vagrants and beggars challenged by the police in the counties of Haddington and Edinburgh, exclusive of the City of Edinburgh, during the eight years ending 30th June 1853. In these two counties, which are on the east coast of Scotland, in the first four of those eight years, that is, in 1846, 1847, 1848 and 1849, there were challenged for vagrancy and begging by the police, Scotch, 4,395, English, 1,317, making together of Scotch and English, 5,712; of Irish, in those four years, 4,810. Now, I understand that it was stated that vagrants had nearly disappeared from Ireland. I think I can account for some of them. In the four years 1850, 1851, 1852 and 1853, in those two counties the number of vagrants were, Scotch, 7,251; English, 839; English and and Scotch together, 8,090; Irish, 11,248. You will observe, that in the first four years, which were the four years of great distress, but were also the four years of lavish relief in Ireland, the whole number of Irish vagrants in those two counties was 4,810. In the last four years after the cessation of that relief in Ireland, when the vagrants began to disappear from Ireland, the number in those two counties was 11,248, more than double what it was in the first four years. I think that will therefore probably show what has become of the vagrants who have disappeared from Ireland, or a considerable number of them. The number of persons apprehended by the police of the City of Edinburgh, and tried for begging in the four years 1850 to 1853, both inclusive (I am sorry to say that the records do not furnish the means of giving the returns for the first four years for the City of Edinburgh, they only furnish returns for the last four years), were 2,015 Scotch, 220 English, 1,427 Irish. Therefore, adding the City of Edinburgh to the two counties for those four years, the numbers will stand thus:—Scotch, 9,266; English, 1,059; Scotch and English together, 10,325; Irish, 12,675. The number of Irish exceeds therefore by 2,300 the aggregate number of English and Scotch together. Those are two counties, it will be observed, not on the west coast of Scotland, but on the east coast of Scotland.

3042. Have you any information of the same sort about any of the western counties?—I have not. In respect of the western counties, I was desirous to have obtained similar information with regard to the county of Lanark, but unfortunately the county of Lanark have no county police; they have never established a county police, the consequence is, that there are not the means of obtaining that information.

3043. Colonel *Blair.*] By whom are those returns furnished?—Those returns are furnished by the superintendents of police in those two counties, but they are merely abstracted by them from the annual printed reports which they lay before the justices of the county. The superintendents of police lay before the justices of the county annually a return of the offences that have been committed, and the number of vagrants who have been challenged. This is the report for the year ending 30th June 1848 (*producing the same*), showing the number of males and females

females that have been found begging by the county police in the different districts, from 1st July 1847 to 30th June 1848. The return which I shall hand in, furnished by the superintendents of police, and from which is prepared the abstract which I have read to the Committee, is merely extracted by the superintendents of police from these annual printed returns which they have furnished to their superiors. In respect to the persons in Edinburgh, the return is also from the public records of the police office, extracted by Mr. Linton, the superintendent of police for the city of Edinburgh; it is contained in a letter which I shall read: "I regret that it is not in my power to furnish all the information requested in your letter of the 10th instant." That is, the 10th of May. "I have a correct record for the last four years only, in which the number of persons apprehended and tried for begging were" (he gives the numbers, which I have given in the Abstract). "It may be remarked, in reference to the classification according to country, that many marked as Scotch are the children of Irish parents, and born in Glasgow, and other towns in which large numbers of Irish live. As regards the condition and habits of the Irish frequenting or residing in Edinburgh, I can state some of the various ways in which they come under the notice of the police. They are the keepers of, and lodgers in the miserable dens in Cowgate, Grass-market, Canongate, West Port, &c., many of which are altogether unfit for human habitations, and many more greatly over-crowded. The duty of enforcing the clauses of the Police Act relative to such houses, was in the beginning of the present year transferred from the department of the inspector of cleansing to that of the superintendent of police, and within two months 287 parties have been brought before the police judge, a few for over-crowding licensed houses, but by far the greater number for keeping lodgers in houses which were not and could not be licensed. Upwards of 250 of those persons were Irish; a large number of the lowest class of Irish appear to eke out a subsistence as cinder gatherers, sellers of firewood, matches, &c., and hawkers of fish, &c., about the streets on barrows. There are also upwards of 200 brokers, or dealers in metals, bones, rags, &c., in Edinburgh, more than one-half of whom are Irish." That concludes what I have to state on the subject of Irish vagrancy.

3044. *Chairman.*] Have you formed an opinion upon the question of doing away with the compulsory power of removal from Scotland to Ireland?—Since the question has been mooted it has been my duty to consider it very anxiously. I was not content with forming my opinion exclusively from my own means of information; I therefore addressed letters to various persons, especially to our most intelligent inspectors of the poor, putting to them the question, requesting them to communicate to me confidentially, and without reserve, their opinion as to whether the removal of Irish paupers could be abolished with safety to Scotland, and desiring them to state their opinion upon the various dangers that were alleged to be likely to result from that measure. Amongst the persons to whom I wrote was a gentleman unconnected with the administration of the poor law, Mr. Glassford Bell, who is the sheriff substitute for Lanarkshire, who does a great portion of the sheriff business in Glasgow; he holds his court in Glasgow, and is in a position to form an independent and sound opinion upon the subject.

3045. Is he a gentleman who exercises the duties which are imposed by the 77th section upon the sheriff?—He is. This is an extract from a private letter from Mr. Henry Glassford Bell, sheriff substitute, Glasgow, to Sir John M'Neill, dated 16 May 1854. "Even as the law at present stands, Irish paupers alone have cost the parish of Glasgow (not including the parish of Barony, or any other contiguous parishes) the sum of 7,000 *l.* per annum for the last three years. This sum would have been infinitely higher, if there had been no power of removal; the threat of removal affords one of the tests of pauperism. After it is made, the alleged pauperism is often heard of no more. So strongly does this operate, that the parochial authorities of the parish of Glasgow have had no occasion to apply for a warrant of removal for the last year, although they have, no doubt, aided in sending many poor Irish away who went voluntarily. Nevertheless hundreds of Irish people land every month at the Broomilaw, who go direct to the Town's Hospital to demand relief." I may mention that the Town's Hospital is the poorhouse in Glasgow. Previously to its being used as a poorhouse, it was a hospital for aged and infirm persons, and it retains the name of the Town's Hospital. "The stream of pauperism is always from the poorer to the richer country, and though I believe there is no law of settlement, properly so called, in force in Ireland, and consequently no power to remove Scotch paupers, it is notorious that, in point of fact,

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they have hardly any such paupers among them. On the other hand, if we had no alternative but to receive as parochial burdens, the floating shoals of diseased and destitute Irish who are perpetually landing on our shores, the evil would become intolerable, and it would be impossible for each parish to meet as at present its own amount of pauperism." This is a letter from the inspector of Paisley, in answer to a similar communication. I may mention that the inspector of Paisley has been inspector ever since 1845, since the present law came into operation.

3046. An inspector appointed by your Board?—He is named by the Parochial Board, but is not removable by the Parochial Board. The Parochial Board select and elect him, and the power of dismissing him rests with the Board of Supervision. "I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 1st current in reference to the law for the removal of paupers from England and Ireland to Scotland, and from Scotland to England and Ireland. In a general point of view, I think it is indisputable that the existing laws of settlement, which require a continued industrial residence in order to the acquisition of a right to relief, are founded on wise policy, and operate advantageously to the country. They present a constant check to vagrancy and its accompanying evils, and provide a powerful stimulus to the cultivation of habits of sober industry and steady perseverance in the poorer classes. In the administration of parochial relief, it is essential to know something of the previous history and character of applicants, in order that their wants may be met in a way which shall be advantageous to themselves, and at the same time safe to the public. This object can never be so fully attained as by a law of settlement, which fixes the burden of the pauper's support upon the locality of his residence. Believing, therefore, that any alteration which should materially disturb the operation of the law of settlement would be attended with serious injury, I have no hesitation in expressing my conviction that Scotland could not with safety dispense with the power of removing Irish paupers who become chargeable without having acquired a claim by a parochial residence of five years. It is a matter of common observation, that Irish poor, whether able-bodied or infirm, uniformly evince the greatest possible reluctance to go back to their own country. With reference to the latter class, especially, who, in consequence of advanced years or disease, have no prospect before them on their arrival in Ireland but to seek their means of support from the parish, I can say, without exaggeration, that out of the many thousands who have been chargeable to this town during the period of my services as inspector, I am at this moment unable to recollect a single case of removal which was spontaneous on the pauper's part, and not the result of an unavoidable necessity; but were the power of removal withdrawn, it is clear that Irish paupers would form the principal part of the poor, especially in towns, and that a very large proportion of the cost of maintaining the pauperism of Ireland would be permanently transferred to Scotland. Of this there can be no doubt. This deep-rooted aversion of the Irish to return home must, I think, be traced to the fact that in Ireland relief of any kind is difficult to obtain, or when obtained, is administered under circumstances which are comparatively repulsive and disagreeable. When an Irish pauper resident in Scotland is told that he must go home, he replies he has no home to which he can go, and when reminded that he has the parish or union to which he belongs, he receives the intimation as if it meant that he has no resource but to beg or starve. This stubborn resolution against returning to Ireland, and unequivocal preference of relief in this country, must have an adequate cause, and makes it difficult to resist the conclusion that the parochial authorities evade their statutory obligations, or wish to get rid of the burden of their support. This view of the case seems to be confirmed by the anxiety of the Irish members of the House of Commons that the provisions of the Bill for England, lately brought in by Mr. Baines, should be extended so as to include natives of Ireland also; indeed there is very little room to doubt that in the proposed state of matters, persons who have been or who are likely soon to become chargeable in Ireland, would not be long without the means of getting themselves transferred to the other side of the Channel, eventually burdening England and Scotland with the maintenance of the greater part of Irish pauperism. If the poor coming from Ireland brought with them cultivated minds and virtuous habits, their presence amongst our own people might possibly compensate to some extent for the burden of their support; but the great mass is unhappily of an entirely opposite character, destitute of education, coarse and sensual in their feelings and habits, and insensible to the value of anything which does not directly minister to the gross appetites of animal nature; their influence on our poorer classes has already

already been most pernicious; were the laws of settlement and the power of removal set aside, it is impossible to calculate the extent of evil which would thereby result to the social condition of the working people of Scotland; judging from experience, I should say that even with respect to our native poor, it would be most unwise to bring about a state of things under which the poor would have a right to relief in any place within the kingdom to which they might go. I do not think it would materially benefit the industrious workman, and I am sure it would operate injuriously on the character of the poor, and lead to worse forms of social evil than any we have yet witnessed; but were the same rights also extended to natives of Ireland, I believe the evils resulting would speedily assume a magnitude from which it would be apparent that nothing but an immediate return to the old laws of settlement could save the country from ruin; I regret that pressing official duties have prevented me from replying to your letter at an earlier date."

3047. Mr. *Maguire.*] May I ask you that gentleman's name?—Mr. Brown, inspector of the poor for the parish of Paisley; this is from the inspector of Greenock.

3048. *Chairman.*] What is his name?—His name is Malcom. "From what I have seen in the newspapers regarding the Removal Bill, referred to in your favour of the 1st instant, I am led to believe it would be a measure fraught with very serious consequences to Scotland in general, but more especially to the ports of landing; I should say without hesitation, that the power of removal should not be abolished; were that power taken away the evils you detail in your letter would certainly follow; we have little to fear from England, but the Irish have got it into their heads that if they could only get to this country they would be well off. In inquiring into the cases coming under my notice, I have been told by the parties that their passage and other assistance have been rendered them by overseers and clergymen. When they settle down here for a short time and get work they are very averse to go back to Ireland. It is to be feared that encouragement would be given to Irish paupers to come to Scotland if they were entitled to be maintained here whenever they landed, and an increase of poor rates would be a necessary consequence. The character and habits of the lower class of Irish have a tendency to deteriorate the social condition of our native working classes; hitherto facilities have been afforded by cheap fares to parties coming to this country from Ireland in search of employment, and shortly after their arrival the wife and children have been sent over in search of the husband, without knowing where to find him and without means to support them; if the power of removal were abolished, and these parties entitled to parochial relief without acquiring an industrial or residential settlement, the number of Irish paupers would in a very short period outnumber our Scottish poor." This is a letter from the inspector of Campbelton in Argyllshire; this, I may mention, was not written in answer to any letter of mine, for I did not write to him; it was sent up along with the Return which I had called for.

3049. Is that a rural district?—No, it is a small town; it contains a population of about 9,000. This is addressed to the secretary of the Board of Supervision: "I am in receipt of yours of the 17th current reminding me that a removal return should have been earlier sent, I beg leave to state that the return referred to was sent two days ago, and very probably crossed your letter in reference thereto. I look with interest and alarm upon a proposal which seems to be in contemplation of taking away the law of settlement, and leaving Scottish parishes to be overrun with hordes of Irish vagrants without the power of removing them to their own parishes. It is well known that wherever the Irish locate themselves in any town they not only do not rise themselves in the social scale, but they keep at the bottom of the scale and drag down their Scottish neighbours to a level with themselves. The power of removal, clogged as it is with many restrictions and conditions, enables a parish at least to hold such power *in terrorem* over the undeserving, and also to free the parish from heavy burdens; but from the great numbers who come to seaports like this from Ireland, I fear that should an alteration in the law of settlement take place other and more serious alterations must follow; for instance, there are workhouses enough in Ireland, but the Irish here make no scruple in stating that they have come to Scotland to obtain a settlement, and chiefly to obtain out-door relief, in preference to going into the workhouse at home; and therefore each parish must build a poorhouse in Scotland and apply for more stringent tests than at present they obtain in Scotland, yea, as stringent as they are in Ireland, so as not to leave a

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choice to an Irishman to come to Scotland to be a better kept pauper; and the poor Scottish pauper will probably have to endure greater hardships than at present, all on account of the inroads of Irish immigrants. This parish from its proximity to Ireland has been in former years overrun with Irish, and their descendants are among us as the scum of society. I lately sent fifteen individuals home by warrant, which was the first step to stop the heavy charges which were being made upon this parish." This is from the inspector of Govan, one of the parishes of Glasgow.

3050. I believe you are aware that Mr. Adamson, the inspector of the poor at Glasgow, was expected here as a witness to-day?—I was aware that he was summoned, and I was very apprehensive that he would be unable to attend in consequence of indisposition. This is from Mr. James Kirkwood, the inspector of the poor of the parish of Govan. "I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of date 2d instant; I have since receipt deliberated over the questions you propose, and beg in reply to submit my unreserved opinion thereon. I am convinced that the repeal of the removal clauses of our Poor Law Act, more especially as regards the Irish poor, will tend greatly to increase the burdens of Scotch parishes. At present the power of removal acts most favourably to prevent the Irish poor who have no settlements becoming a material burden. It is only in cases of extreme destitution they become chargeable at all, and on having explained to them their position as to settlement they either consent to be removed to Ireland, or cease to continue chargeable, whenever they are in a fit state of health to be sent home. To do away with the power to remove will put these poor persons in a position to demand permanent relief, and a considerable proportion of them will enforce this demand and largely increase the burdens of all Scotch parishes without exception, but more particularly those parishes which have no poorhouse accommodation. I consider that the doing away with the power of removal will bring over many Irish paupers, and others but one degree removed from pauperism, to become burdens on Scotch parishes. I do not consider, however, that Scotch parishes, which either have a poorhouse, or a right to place paupers in a poorhouse, will eventually be heavily burdened in this respect if the poorhouse test is freely applied; were all outdoor relief refused to the Irish poor, I consider they would prefer receiving indoor relief in their native country, the ties of home and kindred preponderating with them over the better diet of Scotch poorhouses. A certainty of obtaining outdoor relief will constitute a great inducement to the most worthless class of Irish poor to leave their own country and come to Scotland. In the event of the removal power being annulled, and outdoor relief accorded to Irish poor, from the want of power to remove them; I am of opinion that these circumstances, along with the greatly augmented number of Irish poor, will have a most prejudicial and deteriorating effect on the *morale* of our own lower classes of labouring poor. I may instance one point, not perhaps of general importance, but sufficient to show the all-prevailing force of a bad example. Scotch labouring and lower classes, as a body, make provision for the burial of their dead; this they consider a sacred duty, and do not apply for parochial aid in this respect till every other means has failed. The similar classes of Irish, as a rule, do not make such provision, but whenever a death occurs in their family, apply directly and at once to the parish. In many cases in which such application is made, they, the applicants, have sufficient resources to defray all proper funeral expenses; and if the means of burial are obtained from the parish, they spend their own funds in dissipation. In my experience the feelings of the lower stratum of our own labouring classes, from the example of their Irish neighbours, have undergone a marked change in this particular, and large numbers now make no provision for the interment of members of their family. When the example of the Irish has had such an effect in this matter, so strongly rooted in the hearts of Scotchmen as a duty, it is easy to see the vastly deteriorating effects which will be caused by the doing away with the power of removing the Irish poor. You will be pleased to observe that I am not an advocate for enforcing the power of removal in every case. Instances occur wherein the temporary relief necessary to restore the health of the pauper, so as to fit him for work, is not only a humane but proper expenditure, and occasional cases may occur where, from extreme age, or other causes, it may not be advisable to remove the pauper. I have found that a strict investigation into the affairs and history of the applicant, and testing with indoor relief, constituted a fair means of protection in a considerable number of cases, and saved

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saved the parochial funds in no small degree; but I consider that the taking away from Scotch parishes the power of removing Irish poor, is a step which will be fraught with very serious consequences to Scotland." The next letter is from the Barony parish, Glasgow, addressed to myself:—"I have to apologise for so long delaying to answer your note of the 1st instant. From observation and experience, I have no doubt that in the event of the abolition of the power to enforce removals of Irish from this country, becoming chargeable, who have no settlement here, there would be an immediate influx of Irish applicants for relief, not only from those resident, who have not acquired settlements, but from new incomers, whereby an undue burden would be thrown on the poor's funds of parishes in Scotland. My assistants all concur in this opinion, and although unfortunately we have no distinct record of the number who have ceased to become chargeable when threatened with removal to Ireland, yet we know it has been considerable. It may be said, if the compulsory power of removal is so much required, why has it been so sparingly exercised in Barony parish? The answer simply is, that the offer to admit applicants to the poorhouse, with the view of removing them to Ireland, has had the effect of causing them to withdraw their applications; and in most cases the relief afforded having been casual and trifling, the Board have not insisted on their right to remove the parties, because of the trouble and expense. If the abolition of the power to compel removals of Irish becoming chargeable to parishes in Scotland shall be persisted in, as an injustice and hardship, those maintaining such a plea, it is apprehended, could not with any degree of propriety object to an amendment of the Poor-law Act for Scotland, s. 70, to the effect of excluding Irish having no settlements from the benefit conferred by that section, which entitles destitute persons to be relieved, although having no settlements in the parishes to which they apply. If the power of compulsory removals shall be abolished without an amendment of the Poor-law Act for Scotland, something to the effect above stated, the consequences will be very disastrous to the Barony parish, the harbour of Glasgow, or rather that portion of it where the Irish boats land their passengers, being situated within the Barony parish. I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant, John Meek." I should not have troubled the Committee with so many letters, but that I considered it my duty to put before the Committee all the answers which I received to the inquiries which I made.

3051. Among the answers have you any expressing a different opinion?—None.

3052. In what number of parishes in Scotland have you workhouses, in point of fact?—We have, in point of fact, in Scotland, 26 workhouses in operation.

3053. Out of how many parishes?—These workhouses are some of them workhouses of combinations of parishes; the number of parishes that have poorhouses, either singly or in combination, is 62, and when the poorhouses now in progress are completed, the number will be 88.

3054. What is your total number of parishes in Scotland?—Eight hundred and eighty two.

3055. Then there are about 800 that have none?—There are just about one in ten that have them.

3056. Sir *J. Young.*] Do you find any material difference in the Scotch applications for relief in those parishes or unions in which there are workhouses, from those in which there are not workhouses?—I think, upon the whole, that the power of offering relief in the workhouse has the effect of deterring many of those persons from applying who are just on the verge of pauperism, who are questionable objects of relief.

3057. *Chairman.*] Will you inform us in what way provision is made by your law for the establishment of a workhouse; is it voluntary on the part of the guardians?—Voluntary.

3058. Have you any authority to compel it?—No, we have no such power. Any parish with a population of not less than 5,000 may establish a workhouse, with the concurrence of the Board of Supervision; they are required to submit their plans and estimates to us, and they are empowered to borrow money for the erection of the poorhouse upon the security of their assessments, and to spread the repayment over ten years; they are limited to ten years; they must repay the whole in that time.

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3059. And I infer, from one of your former answers, that parishes may combine for that purpose?—Parishes may combine for the purpose of erecting a poorhouse without combining for any other purpose.

3060. I suppose a combination of that kind would be subject to your approval?—It would; it is restricted by the Act to contiguous parishes.

3061. Are those provisions, to which you have now been drawing our attention, contained in the same Act of Parliament, the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83?—Yes.

3062. Mr. *Liddell.*] You have read a great deal of correspondence from different well-informed quarters, giving the opinions of the parties upon the proposed change, namely, the abolition of the power of removal; does your own opinion entirely concur with those which you have cited?—Entirely. I am very strongly impressed with the conviction that it would be a serious evil to Scotland to deprive us of the power of removal. I think I have shown the Committee that our parochial Boards have not abused that power; they have removed only one in three of the persons whom the law entitled them to remove. There has, therefore, been no general abuse of the power of removal, but it is a check upon the accumulation in Scotland of that class of Irish who are referred to in the police returns, and other such persons.

3063. I infer, then, that in your opinion the same objections would reasonably be urged in great towns in England which are liable to similar evils from a great influx of Irish paupers coming upon their funds, supposing the removal to be abolished?—I should judge by analogy that it is so, but I guard myself against pretending to speak of anything connected with the poor-law of England at all; I restrict myself exclusively to Scotland in all that I say; and I do not venture, nor do I feel that I am entitled or enabled to offer any opinion of the slightest value with respect to matters connected with England.

3064. *Chairman.*] Without adopting every opinion expressed in those letters, I understand you to adopt the general conclusion of them all?—I by no means adopt all the opinions expressed in those letters; I do not at all pretend to make myself responsible for the opinions expressed by our worthy inspectors, no doubt very sincerely on their part, but I am very far from concurring with them in much that they say. But on the general question of the expediency or inexpediency, nay, I go further, the safety or danger to Scotland of retaining or abolishing the right of removal, I confess I entertain a very decided opinion.

3065. It has been said here that your law contains no provision for an appeal in case of any union in Ireland being aggrieved by a removal from Scotland, or in the case of any pauper who may have been wrongfully removed; that is so, I believe, that there is no express appeal clause?—There is no express appeal clause.

3066. Is there any power of appeal?—According to the common law of Scotland, any party aggrieved, suffering loss by the illegal act of another party, can obtain redress in our Courts.

3067. By civil action?—By civil action.

3068. Mr. *Dunlop.*] I suppose you can have no doubt that an appeal not being excluded, if an illegal warrant of removal was granted, an immediate Bill of Suspension might be presented to the Court, and the removal might be stopped?—I have no doubt about it.

3069. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it necessary that the pauper should take those steps?—It is not necessary that the pauper should take those steps; the party to whom the pauper becomes chargeable is quite entitled to take those steps; he suffers loss.

3070. *Chairman.*] The party aggrieved?—The party aggrieved.

3071. Mr. *Dunlop.*] The union in Ireland to which a pauper has been removed having a settlement in Scotland, and having been illegally removed, might recover by action the whole expense?—It was only the other day that a complaint in a case was made to us which has been referred to in the evidence, namely, of a boy of the name of Flanagan, who was removed from Perth by a warrant granted by the sheriff substitute, Mr. Barclay, a gentleman of considerable eminence as a local judge; but it appeared to me, and on taking the opinion of my colleagues it appeared to them, that Mr. Barclay's decision in that case was exceedingly questionable, and we immediately wrote to the Poor Law Commissioners in Ireland, recommending them to take steps to reverse it.

3072. *Chairman.*]

3072. *Chairman.*] Is that the case mentioned in the evidence of Dr. M'Gee, question 2827?—Yes; Patrick Flanagan removed from Perth.

3073. Will you proceed with any observation which you were going to make about this case?—I was going to say that the sheriff who granted the warrant of removal is a gentleman of the highest respectability, and considerable eminence as a lawyer, and of considerable reputation as a local judge; but it appearing to us that he might have made a mistake in his decision, that it was a questionable decision, we wrote to the Poor Law Commissioners, in answer to their inquiry in respect of the case, recommending them to bring an action for the reduction of that warrant; if they succeed in that action, which I venture to think is exceedingly probable, they will then be in a position, as I apprehend, to bring an action for the recovery of all the expenses.

3074. Would there be any means of doing that which was suggested just now by the honourable Member for Greenock, namely, getting the pauper sent back; there would be the means, as I understand you, of recovering damages for loss?—There is no impediment in the law of Scotland to his being conveyed back from Ireland to the parish to which he was chargeable in Scotland; I apprehend that the court would order the parish to pay the expenses of bringing him back.

3075. Your court, in giving its decision, would make that order?—Yes; I have no doubt they would find the parish liable in the expenses of bringing him back, and putting things, as far as possible, in their original condition.

3076. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are you aware that the Board of Guardians in Ireland, who should be the parties to that action, are not authorised by law to expend any money from the poor rates for that purpose, so that the individual guardians would have to do it?—But I apprehend it would be quite competent to the Poor Law Commissioners to take that course according to the law of Scotland.

3077. Persons not interested in the case, not suffering the loss?—I am hardly lawyer enough to venture upon that. I will not venture to give an opinion upon that subject; you have in the Committee gentlemen more competent than myself to speak upon that point.

3078. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Any parties who have advanced money for the support of paupers have an action, in Scotland, to compel the parish to take them back, and repay all the advances made for their support?—Yes.

3079. Mr. *Maguire.*] But, practically speaking, have there been any such actions?—There have been none; and I am very glad that that question has been put to me, because, in the whole course of our correspondence with the Poor Law Commissioners in respect to cases of grievance, this is the first case in which we have thought it expedient to recommend that an action should be brought; this is the first case in which there was such illegality in the proceedings, as made us consider it advisable that an action should be brought, either by the Commissioners or by the guardians.

3080. *Chairman.*] You have given the Committee your decided opinion, that the power of removal cannot be safely relinquished altogether?—Yes.

3081. Can you favour the Committee with any suggestions for the improvement of the present law?—I should be sorry to think that the present law of removal was incapable of improvement.

3082. We shall be very happy to hear from you any suggestions upon that point?—I offer a suggestion with very great diffidence; I am in a peculiar position; the suggestion which I have to offer is liable to misapprehension; individually, I being chiefly responsible for the administration of the poor-law in Scotland, I should desire certainly, as far as my personal comfort and feelings are concerned, to avoid any unnecessary responsibility in respect to that matter. At the same time, an Act of Parliament is so little capable of accommodating itself to changes of circumstances; it is so inconvenient to be going frequently to Parliament to have these Acts changed, that after giving a great deal of considera tion to the question, it has appeared to me that the best course would be, as far as regards Scotland, to grant the Board of Supervision, by Act of Parliament, the power to frame rules regulating removal. If we had possessed that power, there are some things which we certainly should have done.

3083. Will you have the goodness to point them out?—In the first place, we should have made it imperative in removing a pauper by warrant that he should be accompanied by a responsible removing officer; by a man responsible for his proper treatment, who should deliver him at the union workhouse of the locality

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to which he belonged. I should have objected to remove him to what he stated was his native place. I should have required his removal to the workhouse of the union in which that place was situated; and I should have asked for authority to demand of the officers of that workhouse an acknowledgment of the pauper's having been received.

3084. Neither of those things is now required by law, and you have no power to frame a regulation to that effect?—That is so.

3085. Will you proceed?—I should desire that it should be required of the persons receiving the pauper to have him examined by the medical officer on his arrival, and that he should state whether or not it appeared to him that there were indications of the pauper's having suffered in his health from removal, having been improperly removed as regarded his health. Let that be done upon the removal of the pauper; let it not be a question raised afterwards. If there is nothing in the appearance of the pauper, or brought out by medical examination when the pauper is delivered, to indicate that he has been improperly removed as regards his health, if he should fall sick afterwards no blame can attach to the people who have removed him. I would desire also power to require of our inspectors before removing a pauper to give to a union in England or in Ireland the same notice that is given to a parish in Scotland.

3086. That is by the 71st section: "That in all cases in which relief shall be afforded by one parish or combination to a poor person having a settlement in another parish or combination, written notice of such poor person having become chargeable shall be given to the inspector of the poor." There is no time specified; therefore I suppose you construe that as a reasonable notice?—Yes; I would require our inspectors to do more than that; I would require them to state in the notice the day on which they intended to remove the pauper, giving a reasonable interval for objection; that is to say, for the interposition of the parties to whom the pauper was to be removed to suspend the removal by an action at law, if they thought proper to apply for an interdict against the removal. I would then require the inspector to state the time of removal and the expected or anticipated time of arrival, and I would make it imperative upon the officers of the union workhouse where the pauper was delivered to be prepared to receive him at that time, and to subject him immediately to medical examination, and to let the removing officer return with his certificate of the pauper's having been delivered in good condition; that is to say, delivered in such a condition that there was no indication of his having suffered from having been improperly removed.

3087. Is there anything with regard to the medical certificate required in the first instance, which you think capable of improvement?—Yes, I would change the form of the medical certificate required; I would require the medical officer to certify, not that the pauper, as stated in the statute, could be removed without danger, but that he could be removed without injury to his health.

3088. You will remember that the words are, "setting forth that the health of such person is such as to admit of such removal"?—Yes; it may be said that he will not be killed by removal; the certificate man may certify on soul and conscience that his state is such as to admit of his removal, but yet it may be detrimental to him to remove him. I would shut the door against any risk of that; I would require the medical officer to certify, on soul and conscience, that the pauper could be removed without injury to his health, and if there were any special precautions in the mode of removal with reference to the season of the year, or the condition of the pauper, I would make the medical officer responsible for stating them in his certificate; I would call upon him to state them in it: "I certify, on soul and conscience, that such a pauper may, without injury to his health, be removed to such a place, in such a manner."

3089. Does any other suggestion occur to you?—I dare say that if I came to frame rules, I should probably find other things to state, but these are the leading points.

3090. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Do you consider that any change might be made, not in the power of removal, but in reference to the law of settlement?—The law of settlement, as it at present exists, dates from 1845. Previously to 1845, settlement was acquired by a residence of three years in Scotland. The whole question of the expediency of continuing, or changing the time required for acquiring a settlement, was carefully examined by the Commission which investigated the state of

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our poor-law previous to the passing of the Act of 1845. That Commission consisted of persons eminently well qualified to examine the question. At the head of the Commission was the late Lord Melville; his colleagues were Lord Belhaven, Mr. Home Drummond, Mr. Campbell, of Craigie, the Rev. Dr. Robertson, of the Established Church, and the Rev. Dr. M'Farlan, of the Free Church, accompanied by Mr. Twisleton, who, having had experience in England as well as in Scotland, was added to the Commission.

3091. *Chairman.*] Is that Mr. Twisleton who has since been Chief Commissioner of Poor Laws in Ireland?—Yes. These gentlemen looking to the tendency of pauperism to gravitate towards the towns, and with reference to the continual complaints of the towns of their being overwhelmed with pauperism from the country of which I have had reason to give you some evidence to-day, came to the conclusion that it was expedient that the time required for acquiring a settlement should be extended from three years to five. I have been carefully considering that question. As regards the rural parishes, as regards the proprietors and occupiers of land for agricultural purposes in Scotland, I have no doubt that the restriction of the time to three years would be very acceptable to them, but I am equally satisfied that it could not be effected without throwing a very undue burden upon all our towns. The number of removals effected from the towns, as compared with the number of removals from the rural parishes, shows, I think, very plainly, that the towns do require a protection, and I should certainly, as far as I can see my way, anticipate evil, and not good, from diminishing the number of years necessary to acquire a settlement.

3092. Mr. *Dunlop.*] What I wished to direct your attention more particularly to was not so much the length of time for acquiring a settlement, as the manner in which a settlement is lost. As the law stands at present, an Irishman or an Englishman living in Scotland for 20 years in the same parish, if he removes to a neighbouring parish, and lives there four years and a week, and becomes a pauper, absolutely forfeits his settlement in Scotland?—Yes.

3093. And yet the law does not allow him in that period of four years and something over to acquire a new settlement, though he has resided continuously in another parish?—That is true.

3094. Does it not occur to you that there is a hardship in that?—I think so; and upon that subject I have another suggestion, which is this: that, as I am informed, especially as regards the Irish paupers, they are subjected to a hardship in consequence of their not knowing the limits of parishes in towns; Irish people come over and settle in a town; they do not know the limits of the parish, and by changing their residence from the limits of one parish to the limits of another, they fail to acquire a settlement, although they have resided in the town the length of time that otherwise would have given them a settlement.

3095. You have referred to the report of the Commissioners who investigated the subject; are you aware that they did not suggest a forfeiture by an absence of more than four years?—I am aware of it.

3096. Are you aware that the Bill originally introduced contained the following provision: "And no person shall be capable of acquiring a settlement by residence in any parish or combination unless he shall have been born in that part of the United Kingdom called Scotland, or his father shall have been a native of Scotland, and shall have been domiciled in Scotland at the time of the birth of such person"?—That was the recommendation of the Commissioners.

3097. And the present enactment of a forfeiture by the lapse of five years without one year's residence in the parish was substituted?—It was substituted as a more lenient measure; the recommendation of the Commissioners was, that persons born out of Scotland should be incapable of acquiring a settlement in Scotland, and that opinion was founded upon the fact that persons born in Scotland were incapable of acquiring by mere residence a settlement in England.

3098. *Chairman.*] After the suggestions which you have now made, I understand you to be of opinion that it is desirable either that they should receive legislative sanction, or that the Board of Supervision should have the power of acting upon them?—Yes.

3099. Sir *J. Young.*] You stated that the inducements which the Irish had in coming to Scotland, in addition to getting employment, were either that they got out-door relief, or were in a better kept workhouse than in Ireland?—That is stated by the inspectors; I did not state that from myself; I read it from the letter of an inspector; but I have no doubt that the facility with which a settle-

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ment is acquired by residence in Scotland is a great inducement for the Irish to prefer Scotland as a place to come to.

3100. You stated that the number of persons receiving relief in Scotland was one in 15?—Yes, those are Scotch, Irish, and English together.

3101. The number out of the resident population is one in 15?—Yes.

3102. In Ireland, out of a population of six millions, the number at present in the workhouses are a few hundreds under 100,000, that is 1 in 60 of the population?—Yes.

3103. What is the objection to giving relief in Scotland in the workhouses to Irish paupers, as it would deter them from seeking relief from the parish?—Would it be expedient to give relief to the Irish paupers in one way and to the Scotch paupers in another way? I am very much afraid that if we were to make that distinction we should be met with very serious complaints of our treating the Irish poor in a very different manner from our own poor.

3104. But what is the hardship in giving indoor relief in preference to outdoor relief to any destitute person?—In answer to that question I have only one observation to make, that the feelings of the people in Scotland would not permit it; you cannot carry public opinion with you in Scotland in enforcing such a measure, it is impossible; our poor are all less or more either actually or constructively disabled poor; we have no able-bodied poor. The able-bodied are not by law entitled to demand relief in Scotland; the parochial boards have a discretionary power to grant temporary relief to able-bodied poor, but at their own discretion. The disabled poor in Scotland have by law a right to demand relief, and can enforce that right by legal proceedings if they are improperly refused.

3105. Do not Irish able-bodied poor seek for relief in Scotland?—No, none.

3106. Then the parties who seek for relief, and who are removed, are nearly all parties who do not come under the denomination of able-bodied?—Certainly.

3107. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are the Committee to understand that your objection to the abolition of the power of removal of paupers from Scotland to Ireland and England extends generally to the abolition of the power of removal altogether?—Of England I do not venture to say a word.

3108. You object to the abolition of the power of removal at all?—I think it necessary to preserve that power.

3109. Is it true that one of the principal grounds of that conclusion is your belief in the gravitation of pauperism, to use your own phrase, towards the towns?—It is the gravitation of pauperism from Ireland towards Scotland generally.

3110. But also within Scotland that there is a gravitation of pauperism towards the large towns?—Yes; my opinion is founded upon the total number of paupers who, in the face of all the difficulties which they have now to encounter, are thrown upon us from Ireland. I am of opinion that if those difficulties were removed the number would be largely increased.

3111. With reference to that particular point of the tendency or gravitation of pauperism towards towns to which you have alluded, do you understand by gravitation that at all times there will be more paupers in towns, or that there is an increasing disposition in a country where there is a poor-law of the destitute poor to congregate in the large towns?—I do not attribute it to the operation of the poor-law. I think the poor-law may tend to counteract it; but the tendency of the poor to go to the towns, I think, is independent of the operation of the poor-law altogether.

3112. Is the rating for the relief of the poor in Scotland at present generally upon means and substance, or upon rateable property, similar to the system in England?—The number of parishes in Scotland is 882. Of those 882 parishes, 680 raise their funds for the relief of the poor by assessment, and 202 by voluntary contributions; of those 680 there are 64 assessed on means and substance, and all the others upon real property.

3113. Is the rating in the towns usually upon real property?—Yes, it has recently become so. Some of our towns are still rated upon means and substance; for instance, Greenock is rated upon means and substance, and Dundee is rated upon means and substance; Glasgow was, until recently, for some years rated upon means and substance; that is changed now.

3114. Do you consider that the rating for the relief of the poor where the assessment is upon real property, when you come to compare the apparent rate in towns with the country, affords any fair test of the burthen upon the community

nity in the towns and in the country respectively?—Where the assessment is upon real property in the towns, I do not know how far it may afford a fair test.

3115. To frame my question otherwise, are not the available means of the community in a town very much greater in proportion to the value of real property than in a rural district?—Perhaps they may be greater; I am not sure. I think that in towns you assess upon shops upon their rental, where very often the business done in the shop is small in proportion to the rent. I think there are other cases in which real property in towns pays very largely.

3116. But would an equal amount of rating in a town be nearly so heavy a burthen upon the community as in the country?—I have not considered the question before. I think there is a portion of the community on whom it does not fall nearly so heavily; there is a portion of the community, consisting of persons in independent and easy circumstances in the towns, upon whom it falls lightly, but upon that class of persons who obtain their means by their occupations in the towns, my belief is that it falls fully as heavily as in country parishes it falls upon the real property.

3117. Without pursuing that subject, may I ask you whether your attention has been directed to this fact, that the table which you have given, comparing the amount of the number of removals from the whole of Scotland, and from the six great towns which you have mentioned, rather seems to indicate, so far as it is any test of the amount of pauperism weighing respectively on the great towns and the rest of the country, a diminished proportion on the part of the great towns; that the proportion to the whole borne by the great towns is less in late years than it was in the earlier years?—The proportion is about the same; the number is less.

3118. In the earlier years it is eight-ninths, and it diminishes gradually from eight-ninths to four-fifths in the later years?—Yes.

3119. You stated the average number of paupers removed from Scotland to Ireland for the last eight years to be 5,852?—Yes.

3120. But your attention, no doubt, has been directed to the fact, that the absolute number has diminished very rapidly of late years?—I have the precise number chargeable in every year.

3121. The question refers to the number removed in each year?—The number removed in each year has diminished, but not so very much.

3122. Were not the whole number of removals of all kinds in the last year to which the return extends, only 2,415?—Yes; the number removed of all kinds in and from Scotland, but those are diminished in a great measure by the diminution of our inter-parochial removals.

3123. But the number removed in and from Scotland in the year 1847-8 was 13,733, and there has been a continual decrease since the year 1847 down to the last year to which the return extends?—Yes.

3124. Therefore, whatever the cause may have been which created the very large number of removals in 1847, it is a cause which appears to have been continually diminishing since that time?—Yes; that is including our inter-parochial removals.

3125. Does not that statement apply also to the removals of Irish paupers, that there has been a continual diminution?—I will state to you the number of removals in each year; it has very greatly diminished from what it was in 1847 and 1848.

3126. Without troubling you to go over the numbers again, I will merely ask you whether that is to be attributed to the fact that of late years there has been no very considerable influx of persons either actually paupers or on the verge of pauperism from Ireland to Scotland?—If I look to the vagrancy returns, I must come to a different conclusion.

3127. With reference to the vagrancy returns which you gave, those are returns of the number of cases in which persons have been apprehended, not the number of persons?—Undoubtedly.

3128. Is it not notorious that in large towns, such as Edinburgh and Glasgow, the same person is apprehended over and over and over again, and brought up for vagrancy?—But this refers not chiefly to the large towns; it refers to the country of East Lothian and Mid-Lothian.

3129. Is it your opinion, from your knowledge of the subject, that those cases include a considerable number of repetitions of the same individual who has been apprehended?—Undoubtedly they do.

3130. So that that does not enable the Committee or the House of Commons to form a safe conclusion as to the absolute number of vagrants?—It does not; but as to the comparative number, I think it does, because the same is true in respect of the first four years and the last four years.

3131. If it be true, however, that there are a class of poor Irish who make their living by begging, and that that is very unusual in Scotland, those who make their living by begging will appear very often in the returns, whereas the Scotch vagrant may appear but once?—They would not appear more frequently in the first four years than in the last four years.

3132. With reference to the alarm which you have expressed at the consequences of the abolition of the power of removal of Irish paupers back to Ireland, are you acquainted with the provisions of the Irish Vagrant Act, which impose a penalty upon a person going from one place to another in Ireland with the intention of seeking relief?—Yes.

3133. Have you considered what would be the effect, as a protection to Scotland, of the extension of the principle of that Act, so as to include the entire of the United Kingdom, and to include also all persons aiding and abetting poor persons to go from one place to another to seek relief?—I endeavoured to state my opinion of the intolerable cruelty of such a law by taking the case of a Scotchman who should become disabled in Ireland, and should, as a penalty for his poverty, be banished for life.

3134. Do you apprehend that, under any probable state of circumstances, the cases of that kind would be at all so numerous, or approach to the number of those in which persons under the operation of the law of removal are taken away from the place where they have some local connexion, and have been earning their bread, and are sent to places with which they have no other connexion than the accident of having been born there?—I think, that looking to the operation of our law of removal, not necessarily to the place of birth, but to the place of birth or settlement, it does appear that a vast majority of paupers removed are removed to places where they have friends or acquaintances. The operation of the law which prevents their removal will continually be to shut them up in places where they have no friends or acquaintances. Take the case of your Irish vagrants who come over in great numbers to Scotland; many of them fall sick, and are relieved where they are, and find their way home; that happens in numberless cases. You would make it impossible to remove such a person if he happened to be permanently disabled from earning his livelihood; you would make it impossible for him ever to see Ireland again.

3135. Have you any reason to suppose that in Ireland, where there exists no law of settlement, the operation of the poor law is to imprison persons, as you say, at a distance from their homes?—As to the imprisonment, I attach little importance to that; but when I see gentlemen subscribing from their own funds to evade the law, and to do that which the law forbids, I am bound to believe that the moral pressure upon them produced by the stringency of the law must be very great.

3136. Mr. *Dunlop.*] An act of vagrancy in Scotland does not warrant the removal of an Irish or English vagrant?—No; I understand the question to have reference to the safety of permitting the free ingress of Irish into Scotland, provided the same law which is now in operation in Ireland were extended to Scotland.

3137. You do not find, in Scotland, that the penalties imposed upon acts of vagrancy prevent such people coming over and committing those acts?—No.

3138. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are the workhouses at present erected in Scotland, or those in course of erection, sufficient to provide for the probable wants of the great towns in Scotland, which alone suffer from the influx of Irish paupers?—They do not alone suffer; I think that is a mistake.

3139. They principally suffer?—Yes; but if you refer to some of our counties, such as Ayr, and Dumfries, and Wigton, you will find that the Irish population there and Irish pauperism is much more diffused. Most of our large towns are provided with poorhouses, but not certainly with sufficient poorhouse accommodation if every Irish pauper who chooses, and can find the means to cross the Channel, is entitled to come and demand relief in Scotland.

3140. Upon what fact do you ground your apprehension that Irish paupers would come across the Channel to demand relief in Scotland; are you under the impression that relief in Scotland is more tempting than it is in Ireland?—Most undoubtedly,

undoubtedly, because the greater part of our relief is out-door relief. I do not know that a great number of them come over for the purpose of seeking relief, but a great number of persons who are weakly and partially disabled, and find it difficult to get employment in Ireland, come over to Scotland; they are already partially disabled; as soon as they become destitute they become by law entitled to demand relief in Scotland.

3141. Have you got, or could you furnish to the Committee, any facts in the nature of returns or statements of eye-witnesses with respect to the arrival in Scotland at the present time of destitute poor?—I read to the Committee the letter of Mr. Bell, the sheriff of Glasgow, as to that fact.

3142. It was framed in very general language?—It was.

3143. I apprehend that Mr. Bell is not an eye-witness?—I apprehend that he is. You will remember that all the Irish poor who are relieved in Scotland are persons who are by law entitled to demand relief; they are all persons less or more disabled, either actually or constructively. The average annual number for the last eight years of that class, persons who are presumed to be physically incapable of earning their own livelihood, chargeable in Scotland, has been about 30,000.

3144. That number, however, includes the two or three years of the greatest distress in Ireland?—It includes two or three years of the greatest distress in Ireland, it is true, but the smallest number on the list was last year, when the number was 21,345. It must be kept in view that these 21,345 persons are all of them persons held by law to be incapable of maintaining themselves by their own labour; not merely to be temporarily destitute, but to be incapable of earning their livelihood. If I find that there is an average number of 30,000 Irish chargeable, all of them presumably incapable of earning their livelihood, and that in the year in which the number is smallest there are still 21,345 disabled Irish chargeable in Scotland, I do look with very great apprehension to any increased facilities for the arrival upon our shores of that class. I think we have enough of them.

3145. That class of persons if they did arrive under the circumstances which you have supposed, should either come of their own accord, or be assisted by persons in Ireland to do so; the latter case might be met by express legislation, in the way in which it is partially met in Ireland?—But why, what is the object?

3146. Would not it afford, or at least in a great measure, that protection which you think Scotland stands in need of against this increase of the number of helpless poor from Ireland?—When I see your present law evaded for the purpose of enabling people to come back——

3147. I beg your pardon; it is a mistake to suppose that it is an evasion of the present law for persons in Belfast to subscribe money to send persons to Scotland; it is not?—I understand it to be an evasion of the present law, which does not contemplate removal, which makes no provision for removal. I find that gentlemen, say in Belfast, pass on a number of paupers into the interior of Ireland to their own home, the law not contemplating the removal of such persons.

3148. At present that is perfectly legal so long as it is not done from public funds?—Exactly so; that is to say, as I understand it, that the law as originally framed is found to be too stringent to admit of its being strictly adhered to.

3149. It is merely that persons supply a want which is not provided for by the law?—My apprehension of the law is, that your law did not contemplate the removal of poor persons at all; but that, contrary to what was contemplated by the law, it is found necessary to effect removal by private means.

3150. It is rather a matter for the Irish ratepayers and the inhabitants of Ireland to consider whether the amount of grievance or suffering which might arise from such a stringent state of the law as you have suggested would affect the Irish pauper; but so far as Scotland is concerned, would not the protection to Scotland be secured by a stringent state of the law preventing the sending of helpless Irish poor from Ireland to Scotland?—I confess that I do not see my way to a sufficient security in that mode.

3151. Accompanied by the right to send back any paupers who should arrive in that destitute state in Scotland?—I prefer the security afforded by the law of settlement.

3152. Have you any information as to the population of Irish working people in the town of Glasgow and its neighbourhood?—I have some information as to the population in some of our counties.

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3153. Derived from the last census?—Yes; the number of persons born in Ireland, in the county of Renfrew, was 25,678; in the county of Ayr, 20,967; in the county of Wigton, 7,042; in the county of Lanark, 89,330; in the county of Edinburgh, 15,317; in Dumfries, 2,166; in Forfar, 16,219; and in Aberdeen, 1,727.

3154. To that large number must be added a considerable number for the children of those persons who have been born in Scotland, in order to form a fair estimate of the average population?—Yes.

Veneris, 16° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Sir John Young.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Stirling.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.

The RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Frederick Solly Flood, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

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3155. *Chairman.*] YOU have been examined before this Committee; is there anything in the evidence which you have already given which you wish to explain?—I wish to explain the use which I meant to make of the word "removal," in answer to Question 2210. I there stated that I confessed I was not in favour of doing away with the removal; by that I meant the removal of the charge. You are aware that in England there are two kinds of removal: the removal of the person to the place where he is to be supported; and there are instances, as in the cases of lunatics and others, in which the person remains, but the charge is removed; and I think that it would be a very great improvement in the law if the experiment was made of the removal of the person being done away with, while the removal of the charge was retained; and it was in that sense that I meant to say I was not anxious to do away with the law of removal.

3156. Is there any other point to which you wish to advert?—There is Question 2223. I was asked upon the subject of removals from Ireland to England. I ought to have stated that in Wexford, of which, of course, advantage is taken, in consequence of its being a very exposed coast, and shipwrecks being frequent, there are numerous instances in which persons have become shipwrecked and have received temporary relief, and have been removed at the expense of public subscriptions back again to the place from which they have come. One case in particular was alluded to by an Honourable Member of this Committee, the case of the removal of 250 persons who were shipwrecked in the ship "Rochester." If the Committee will permit me, I will give the true version of that story, for an extremely inaccurate one has found its way on to the Minutes of the former Committee, and which was alluded to by the Honourable Member.

3157. You are aware that what was alluded to was evidence given by Mr. Lowndes, of Liverpool, on the inquiry of 1847?—Yes.

3158. That is what you are referring to?—Yes; the true state of the case was this; I am familiar with the whole of it. The ship "Rochester" was shipwrecked as mentioned in that evidence. It contained 287 persons on board, of whom under 40 did not come to Wexford; 250 came to Wexford, consisting of English, Scotch, and Irish, but the majority were Irish. As soon as the shipwreck occurred, and before anybody was actually landed, a meeting was held at Wexford for the purpose of raising a subscription to provide for the relief of those persons; 250 lives were saved and landed at Wexford; every one of those persons was provided with an entirely new set of clothing. Mr. Devereux, a brother of the Honourable Member for Wexford, offered his stores for the pur-

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pose of receiving the whole of those parties; they had shelter, and comfort, and everything that could be done for them; but a discussion arose as to the best thing to be done for them, with the view of recovering their passage-money. Applications were made to the agents of Lloyd's, and also to the captain, and it was stated that unless they immediately returned to Liverpool they would forfeit their claim to the return of their passage-money, or to being provided with any other means of assistance; either claim for the injury which they had sustained in the loss of their property, or the right to be returned again. It was treated in rather a cavalier manner, I remember, by the captain; he refused to give any information; he said, "I will do nothing for you; you must go back." After every remonstrance having been made with him, and every effort having been made, every one of those persons was provided with money; they were sent back to Liverpool, certainly at the expense of the town of Liverpool, for the sole and express object of enabling them to obtain their claims, which it was considered they had a right to in Liverpool; they all had money given them for the purpose. It is not true that they were consigned to the mayor of Liverpool, and sent to be charged; we should have been very glad to have kept them all while their claims were being investigated. The sum of money raised was a very large sum, but it was considered that the more feasible course was to give them the surplus of the subscription in our hands, and let them go back. I am the more anxious to make that explanation from this circumstance. I have named the gentleman who was the principal subscriber, Mr. Devereux. I believe I can safely say that, in the whole United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, there is no other town that raises so large a sum of money by way of voluntary contributions as the town of Wexford. Mr. Devereux is one inhabitant; I am not ashamed to mention it; I am proud of belonging to the town; it subscribed 14,000 *l.* for the relief of the poor since last Christmas. These things are constantly occurring, and that is the mode in which we treat them; we give them every thing which we can do, and they have the option of staying or going back. If they stay they have the value of the money, and if they go back they have the money.

3159. Is there any other question to which you wish to refer?—In Question 2262, I was asked by the Honourable Member for Carlow as to the practice of poor persons going from one place to another to seek relief. It is clear, from the next question and answer, that what I said made an erroneous impression upon the minds of Honourable Members. What I meant to state was this: that it constantly occurs that people who become destitute in a place to which they are perfect strangers, will go to a place where they have resided for years, and will then apply for relief. What the statute forbids is not that, but what the statute forbids is this, that a person shall not go from a place where he is resident to a place where he is not resident. What I meant to say was that, but the impression I conveyed is quite the opposite. I have only to hand in, with the permission of the Committee, the three cases to which I alluded in the course of my examination. The first is the case of William Byrne: "William Byrne, now an inmate of the Enniscorthy workhouse, in the county of Wexford, is a native of Newtown Barry, in the same county, which place he left in 1822, when he left Ireland, and he never returned to this country until removed in 1852. He enlisted in the East India Company's service (St. Helena Artillery) in 1822, and was discharged in London in 1836, as appears by certificate under the hand and seal of Mr. C. T. P. Metcalf, East India House. He then went to Greenwich, where he resided for 14 years, and there pursued his trade as a shoemaker. At the end of that time he became paralysed, and was admitted into the workhouse, where he remained for 12 months. Having then become partially restored, he took his discharge; and he went to Liverpool from a desire of change, strengthened by the fact of his having two sisters there, who he thought would assist him. But a return of paralysis having set in, and his sisters not being able to maintain him, he obtained admission into the Redhill workhouse, where he remained about three months, at the end of which time he was placed, being in a state of paralysis, on board the steamer, and landed at Wexford, on the 22d September 1852. He had received 1 *s.* 6 *d.* at Liverpool. On the 24th he obtained provisional admission into the Wexford workhouse for one day, the following day being board day; on the 25th he left the workhouse. It seems that he thought that he was obliged to do so by the terms of his admission; from his condition there was the greatest difficulty in making himself understood, and he was not among the applicants for admission by the Board on the 25th. He endeavoured, with the help of a crutch,

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to find his way to Newtown Barry. Enniscorthy is situate 14 miles from Wexford, about half way to Newtown Barry. On the morning of Sunday, the 26th, he was found lying insensible on the high road, near Enniscorthy, having spent Saturday and all the night in the attempt to reach that town. He was immediately conveyed to the workhouse, where he had remained ever since."

3160. Where do you get this statement from?—From himself, and from the examination.

3161. Did you take the examination yourself?—No, it was taken by the master of the workhouse, and I was also partly assisted by documents in his possession.

3162. Has the master of the workhouse transmitted that statement to you?—Yes. I was present when the order was given, and it was upon my motion, in fact, that the master of the workhouse was ordered to take this statement in my presence, but I did not remain while he took it down; it was done. I also hand in the case of James Coglan, who was removed from Wales, being a person who had no legs; he made every attempt that he could to prevent his own removal. "James Coglan is a native of Cahir, in the county Tipperary; that about 17 years ago he went from Waterford to Bristol, leaving his wife near Cahir; that after working about two years at Bristol, he passed into the iron districts of South Wales, and having got permanent employment, he took his wife and one child there, where his daughter was born, and he occupied and paid taxes for a house at Rhymney for at least a year, about 1846 or 1847; his wife died there in 1847. In the summer of 1849 he was seized by a fever at Rhymney, where he had lived and worked continuously for above three years previously. In consequence of the fever, it was found necessary to amputate both his feet. When he had become able to leave his bed, he and his two children were removed to Merthyr, where he remained in hospital about three months; he was then taken to Cardiff, where he was supported in lodgings about four months; he was then, with his children, placed on board a vessel that he was told was going to Bristol, to be placed in an infirmary there. That after he was left on board he discovered that the vessel was bound for Wexford; that he then sent his son on shore for the police to take him out of the vessel, as he does not think that there had been any magistrate's order for his removal. All the above removals were effected by the relieving officer of Rhymney; he was certainly not taken before a magistrate. That the relieving officer met his son, gave him a shilling, and persuaded him to return to the vessel; and that before he had time to send again the vessel sailed, and he was landed at Wexford, with his two children, in March 1850; and they have since been inmates of the union poor-house here. That he never had been in any part of the county Wexford until landed there, as above, in March 1850."

3163. Where do you get that from?—From personal examination.

3164. You examined the man yourself?—I did; and I may say that I applied all the humble power which I had of cross-examination, for the purpose of eliciting the truth, and that I have the utmost confidence in the truth of everything stated there. I say the same of the case of Elizabeth M'Guirk, removed from Liverpool; this was also an examination conducted by myself. The paper which I have contains my examination and cross-examination: "Elizabeth M'Guirk against John M'Guirk.—Copy information taken, upon which a warrant was granted upon the application of the master of the workhouse.—The information of Elizabeth M'Guirk, married woman, from Carnolin, in county of Wexford, and late of town of Wexford, who saith, on oath,—I am the wife of the defendant, John M'Guirk, and came with him to Wexford from Carnolin about eight years ago. About eight months ago my husband and myself went to Liverpool, and we both remained a month there; but my husband was not getting work, and having spent all I had, and pledged our clothes, my husband then brought me and my three children to the relieving office in Liverpool, where I was given one penny, and passed into a hall with my children, with a great number of others. Before the penny was given to me, the man who was writing at the desk said to my husband, that it was a wonder a fine able young man like him would not get work. After I had got the penny, and had remained for some time in the hall, each person's name was called out, and a book presented to each in turn to take an oath. I was sworn, as clearly as I can recollect, for I was greatly confused and annoyed, to the effect that I was born in Ireland, and that I would not trouble that place any more. I am certain it was to that effect, but there was more in the oath that I do not recollect. After being sworn, we were all put into a room and left there for better than an hour; we were then called out in turn, and each of

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us got some brown bread; we were all then let go to our respective lodgings to get our things, and were desired to be back at an appointed hour. I went back accordingly, and the man who had been writing at the desk then accompanied us to the Wexford steam-packet, and gave me 1*s*. The man who had been writing at the desk asked my husband if I was his lawful married wife, and he said I was. My husband accompanied me to the steam-packet, and was present when I went on board, and we came to Wexford. The names of my three children are, Laurence, aged eight years; Patrick, three; and Ellen, one and a half years. In consequence of my husband, John M'Guirk, neglecting to support me, myself and my three children became destitute, and are now receiving relief in Wexford Union workhouse; and the said informant binds herself to attend when called upon to give evidence in this case, or otherwise to forfeit to the Crown the sum of 5 *l*. The above information being read in the presence of Elizabeth M'Quirk, she was further examined by F. S. Flood, Esq., J. P.: My husband had no means to support me or the children; all we had was gone; I have not heard from him since; they did not remove him; his name was not in the ticket; I am 29 years of age; I was married in February 1844, at Balloghter, near Carnolin; my father's name was Laurence Kelly, of Ballygullen; he is dead. Mr. Flood stated, that in his opinion the warrant which had issued was illegal." I may also mention that no less than 40 Acts have been passed for the relief of the poor since the 1st and 2d Victoria; 90 had been passed previously, being a total of 130. I have a list of them in my hand; and I may suggest that it would really be an immense saving in the discharge of one's functions if they were consolidated.

F. S. Flood, Esq.

16 June 1854.

James Campbell, Esq., called in; and Examined.

3165. *Chairman.*] YOU reside at Craigie, in the county of Ayr?—Yes.

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3166. Has your attention been turned particularly to the subject of the Scottish Poor-law?—Occasionally it has.

3167. Were you a member of the Commission of Inquiry previous to the passing of the Act of Parliament into which we are now inquiring, the 8th and 9th Vict., c. 83?—I was.

3168. What was the object of that commission?—The object of that commission was to ascertain in what manner, and to what extent, the poor in Scotland, on the different parish rolls, were generally provided for, and to ascertain whether it might be expedient to make any alteration in the mode of providing for them.

3169. You went very carefully into that subject, I believe?—I went very carefully into that subject; in all the districts I went through I went into the houses of the different paupers, which were pretty easily accessible, taking a sufficient number to ascertain exactly the state of the poor in each district, and I wrote down everything I saw in their houses, and whatever they stated to me; and that you will find in the evidence in the Appendix to the Report of that Commission.

3170. I believe the Report of that Commission was printed and laid before Parliament?—It was so, in the spring or summer of 1844.

3171. Since that time have you also turned your attention to the operation of the Poor-law in Scotland?—After the present Act was passed, when the system was quite new, I attended to its introduction into almost every parish with which I was connected; but since the matter has been put in train and worked smoothly, I have not very much attended to it.

3172. You are aware of the object of the inquiries of this Committee?—I am.

3173. You are aware that we are instructed to inquire into the operation of the Act of the 8th and 9th Vict., chap. 83, relating to the removal from Scotland of English and Irish paupers?—I am aware of it.

3174. Are you able to give the Committee any information which will be useful to them with reference to that inquiry?—The only information which I can give to the Committee, which it occurs to me can be useful in that inquiry, is the number of poor from different parishes and different countries who are resident now upon the rolls of stranger parishes, and also to state, as far as my information enables me, the number of removals that have taken place in some of the parishes in Ayrshire; but I beg leave to state that my information relates only to the parishes in two districts of Ayrshire. I have no information with regard to the Cuningham district, and I speak chiefly to those parishes where there has been the greatest influx of strangers.

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3175. What are the two districts to which you refer?—The parishes in which there has been the greatest influx of strangers are in the Kyle and Carrick districts of the county of Ayr; the parishes in those two districts in which there appear to be the greatest number of stranger poor are the parishes of Saint Quivox, Maybole, Girvan, and Dundonald. In the parish of St. Quivox it appears from the roll, which I went over within a short time with the sub-inspector of that parish, that there are born in the parish upon the ordinary roll of paupers 77, and four lunatics, who are in lunatic asylums, making the number born in the parish altogether 81. Then there are born in Ireland 95; and of the 77 born in the parish of St. Quivox, there are 16 born of Irish parents; then of strangers from all other parishes, as well in Scotland as in England, and other places, there are 77 or 78; of those 77 the greater part are from Scotch parishes; there are amongst the whole, two Englishmen, I think, one man from Jersey and one West Indian; all the others are from Scotch parishes, and the greater part of them from other parishes in the county of Ayr.

3176. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are those 77 persons supported by the poor-rates there?—All those whom I have mentioned are supported by the poor-rates there.

3177. In the workhouse, or by out-door relief?—There is no workhouse, it is all out-door relief.

3178. Are these 77 a permanent burden upon the parish?—Yes.

3179. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed with your statement?—The removals from that parish were, in 1852–53, one man and two women to Ireland, and one boy to England, in all four. In 1853, two women and one child were sent to Ireland. These are all the removals which I can find since the introduction of the Act of Victoria from that parish. Then the next parish which I mentioned is the parish of Maybole. In that parish there are at present upon the roll 164 individuals, besides their dependants. Of those 164 there were born in the parish of Maybole 68, and their dependants amount to 22; there were born in other parts of Scotland 24, their dependants being eight; there were born in Ireland 72, their dependants being 64; in England none. I have not any accounts of the removals from Maybole; there may have been some, but they have not sent me any account of them. The next parish which I mentioned was the parish of Girvan. In Girvan the whole poor upon the roll at present amount to 208. Of those there were born in Scotland, and of Scotch parents, 36, and they have 11 dependants; there were born in Scotland, of Irish parents, 68, and they have 27 dependants; there were born in Scotland, of one parent Irish and the other Scotch, 15, and they have six dependants; there were born in Ireland 89, and they have 88 dependants. There has been from this parish of Girvan, during the last five years, one removal; that was to Ireland.

3180. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was that one a compulsory removal, or a voluntary removal?—It was not stated to me whether it was compulsory or voluntary.

3181. If there were voluntary removals would you hear of them?—Yes, I think so. When I come to speak of Ayr, I shall be able to give you a return of the voluntary and of the compulsory removals.

3182. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed with your statement?—The next parish to which I come is Ayr. It appears by a return from the Inspector of the Poor of Ayr to the Board of Supervision of the Poor at Edinburgh, that the number of Irish poor relieved with their dependants during the last year, from Whitsunday 1853 to Whitsunday 1854, was 229, and the other strangers, being English poor, amounted to nine, that was with their dependants; both classes are with their dependants. With respect to the removals from Ayr in 1851, there was a warrant of removal taken against 11 Irish paupers. Of those 11, the clergyman to whose congregation they belonged, became bound that two should not become burdens to the parish, and they were allowed to remain. The other nine wished to be allowed to remain upon their own assurance that they should not ask for relief, but the inspector of the poor did not think fit to agree to that, and they were sent to Ireland, and they returned from Ireland to Ayr by the next boat. They are now in Ayr, and supporting themselves by their industry, not begging, at least they are not known to beg; of course, if they did, it would cut off the running of their settlement again. One of them either has got upon the roll, or is coming upon the roll, but not in her own right; she being married, it is in right of her husband. That exhausts what I have to state with regard to Ayr. Then I come to the parish of Dundonald, in which there are 192 poor; of those, there are 55 natives with 71 dependants; from other parts

parts of Scotland, there are 75 with 61 dependants; from England there is one; from Ireland there are 37 with 38 dependants. Now these are the parishes in which there are the greatest number of poor; they lie along the coast; there are some Irish poor in the inland parts of the country, but the number is very small; for instance, in the parish of Symington the number of poor upon the roll is 12 or 13, and there are only two Irish. In Tarbolton there are 51 poor, and only six Irish born of Irish parents, and three born of one Scotch and the other Irish. To ascertain the number as nearly as I could, for your information, I went a little further into the country to the parish of Ochiltree, and there there are no Irish upon the poor-rate.

3183. Have you had your attention turned to the suggestion which has been made that the power of removal of the Irish under this Act of Parliament may be safely done away with?—Yes, it is a matter that I have heard discussed in all classes of society, from the workpeople up to the higher orders, and the general opinion is that it would not be safe to do away with it.

3184. What is your opinion after the observation and experience which you have had upon the subject?—My own opinion, which I give with great deference, is, that seeing the number of Irish poor who are now upon the roll and the number of applications which are made to get upon the roll, and seeing the increase which has taken place in that number since the introduction of the present Poor-law Act, it would not be safe to do away with that provision.

3185. Will you state the principal reasons which lead you to that conclusion? I may be allowed, perhaps, to state that I asked an Irish working man what he thought of the Poor-law, and he pointed out one or two people of whom he said that an industrial settlement was a mere pretence, that one person gained that settlement by pounding sandstone, another by winding yarn upon a bobbin; but he said "It is all nonsense," and he ended with a very extraordinary expression for a person in his situation. "The poor's roll, sir, is the produce of idleness, drunkenness, and profligacy." That was his opinion. That man is an Irishman, and has been some time in that part of the country; he is an industrious man, and very well conducted. I met with him merely by accident, and I thought I might ask him the question.

3186. I was asking you what are the principal reasons which have led you to the conclusion which you have stated to the Committee as your own opinion that this power of removal cannot be safely done away with as regards Scotland?—My opinion rests upon this, that there are various classes of people who come from Ireland; there are some most excellent workmen who come for the *bonâ fide* purpose of gaining work, many of them very hard working and very skilful men, but in general they are improvident; there are a few exceptions to this rule, where they are just as provident as any set of men can possibly be. Then it does appear to me that as they cannot get upon the roll without a five years' residence, there are in general a great many of a class different from what I have spoken of, who do not appear when they come first to have a very great desire to gain work; many of them come upon the roll the moment the five years have expired. I think if there were no term of settlement a great many would come and apply to be put upon the roll the moment they came over. I can give you an instance; it is only one instance, and will not tell much, but it is just an instance of what has happened. The late inspector of the poor of Saint Quivox parish told me that a man came from Ireland and asked him, immediately upon coming over, for a coffin to bury his child, who had caught some violent disease, and had died in a day or two. He was about to give him the money for this coffin, when he thought fit to examine his house, and he found tied up in a stocking sundry sovereigns. In the same way, you must observe that it is not always the best set of people that come from one country into another, and therefore we are liable to have some bad as well as good, and liable to be imposed upon, and I think it would be a very great opening for imposition, if people could just come over and say, "I am destitute; you must give me relief." You will observe, that those nine people sent back to Ireland said that they could not live upon their own means, and must therefore come upon the Poor-law provision; but when they found that they could not get relief, they have been living upon their own means ever since. They cannot have been begging; they dare not beg, because it would stop their settlement; their settlement will be complete in a couple of years, or two years and a half, and then I have no doubt they will come upon the roll again. Then to show you how the number has increased, this is a return from the inspector of the poor of the parish of Ayr. In 1846, that is, the first

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year after the passing of the 8 & 9 Vict., there were of Irish paupers upon the poor roll, 100; in 1847 there were 151; in 1848, 157; in 1840, 169; in 1850, 173; in 1851, 196; in 1852, 221; in 1853, 229. Those are Irish, with their dependants, including not only individuals upon the roll, but their children.

3187. Mr. *Liddell.*] It seems then that from the period of 1846, there has been a progressing increase, annually, in the number of Irish who have come over to the parish of Ayr according to that statement?—Yes.

3188. It has been stated in former evidence before this Committee that parties who profess to know pretty well the condition of Ireland, express an opinion that the tide of emigration from Ireland to this country is likely to decrease considerably; is that your opinion with those returns before you?—No, that is not my opinion; I can give you the number of applicants for relief, from the month of August 1853 to the month of May 1854, in the parish of Girvan, which will show you that there is still a very great demand for relief.

3189. *Chairman.*] Where do you get this information which you are now going to state to the Committee?—From the inspector of the poor at Girvan. "Number of applicants for parochial relief in Girvan, from the 12th of August 1853 to 12th of May 1854; born in Scotland, of Scotch parents, 25; born in Scotland, of Irish parents, 89; born in Scotland, of Scotch and Irish parents, 4; born in Ireland, 119. Dependants upon Class No. 1, 10. Dependants upon Class No. 2, 82. Dependants upon Class No. 3, 2. Dependants upon Class No. 4, 84."

3190. Is there any other reason which occurs to you to bring you to the conclusion which you have intimated to the Committee, namely, that this power of removal cannot be safely done away with?—I think that we should have a great number, not only from Ireland, but from a great many other places in Scotland, of persons who had not been very well behaved in their own quarters.

3191. You are aware that the proposition is not to do away with the power of removal between parish and parish in Scotland; what we are inquiring into here is the policy of keeping up so much of the present Act as empowers the removal of persons from Scotland to Ireland?—I am quite certain that the repeal of that provision would throw a very great additional burthen upon the parishes on the west coast of Scotland.

3192. You seem to be of opinion that the power of removal has the result of operating as a check, and an effectual check?—Yes, to a certain degree. The great disadvantage of the law of removal is, that it prevents a man, when he cannot find work in one place, from finding it in another. Now there is no disadvantage to the Irish labourer in that respect, because you have a quantity of Irish people coming over constantly; there are a number who seem of a different class from those that come over merely casually; some come over casually and return again, others come over and settle. In the parish in which I live a great many Irishmen are settled who work as drainers; they are most excellent workmen.

3193. Mr. *Maguire.*] What parish is that?—Saint Quivox.

3194. *Chairman.*] They work very hard, do not they?—Yes; they make a great deal of money by piece-work, and are very well employed.

3195. Does anything else occur to you as material for our information upon this subject?—No, nothing else occurs to me; I am satisfied that as many Irishmen as wish to come over for the purpose of finding employment can come over easily, and find employment. I have not seen, for the last four or five years, but one Scotchman a drainer; the contractors are generally Scotchmen, but sometimes not; I know two or three Irish contractors, but all the men who work in the drains are Irishmen; and they make in general very good wages indeed.

3196. You have said that you do not think that this power of removal can be safely taken away: assuming it to remain, in your opinion are there any improvements which might be suggested in the law?—I think it would be an improvement if we could put the Irish poor upon the same footing as the Scotch, that it was not necessary that a man should be removed, but merely that his own parish should pay for his maintenance with us, the same as we do with the Scotch; when a person becomes chargeable upon a different parish than the one in which he has his residence, we do not remove him if he has connexions; he remains there amongst them; perhaps he likes better to live in his new residence than in his old one, and he remains, and the parish of his settlement pays his allowance; and if any such provision could be introduced with respect to the Irish, it is the only measure which I can suggest.

3197. Is that by voluntary arrangement between the two Scotch parishes?—It is not quite voluntary; it follows the provision in the 8th and 9th Vict., which authorises it; that a person being found poor in a parish different from that of his settlement, that parish must afford him relief in the mean time; and then it is in the option of the parish of his settlement, either to take him home and maintain him there, or to pay for his maintenance in the parish where he is; and I do not know a case where that has not been done. For instance, there are 19 paupers belonging to the parish of Ayr, residing in other parishes, and their maintenance is paid regularly by the parish of Ayr.

3198. Then do you suggest that instead of an actual removal, there should be a power given to the parish in Scotland to which the Irish pauper became chargeable, to recover from some Irish union the cost of maintaining him?—Yes; and if they did not recover, of course the pauper would be removable when the payment fell in arrear.

3199. You would give the power of making an arrangement of that kind voluntarily, if the parties thought fit, and if the union in Ireland did not think fit to become responsible, then you would retain this power of removal; is that what you would suggest?—Yes; but I am so totally unacquainted with the Irish Poor-laws, that I speak quite unadvisedly.

3200. Have you any information among your papers as to the number of removals under voluntary arrangements?—I think I can give information upon that point with regard to Ayr. There were nine voluntary removals from 1846 till 1853; there were, one in 1846, one in 1847, none in 1848; two in 1849, none in 1850, two in 1851, none in 1852, and three in 1853.

3201. Those are such voluntary arrangements as the statute sanctions, I suppose?—Certainly.

3202. Is it in your power to furnish the Committee with any further suggestions or information with reference to this subject?—I am sorry to say I have no further information.

3203. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] With respect to the question of the support of the poor from Ireland by an Irish union, would you propose to administer the relief to them by out-door relief as given in Scotland, or by relief in the workhouse as given in Ireland?—That must depend upon the arrangement between the two parties, I presume. There are not at present many workhouses in Scotland, but there will very soon be; there will be one great workhouse for the district of Kyle; it is the centre district of Ayrshire.

3204. Supposing that that workhouse were in operation, what do you think would be the effect upon these applicants who come to you immediately after they have a settlement by a five years' residence, if they were told that they should have relief in that workhouse, and in that workhouse only?—I think we should not have many applicants.

3205. Mr. *Maguire.*] You say it would not be safe to do away with the power of removal; does your fear arise from your anticipation of an increased migration of poor from Ireland to Scotland?—Yes.

3206. You have given returns showing that a larger number of Irish poor were chargeable to the parish of Ayr in 1853 than in 1846?—Yes.

3207. Are there extensive mining works carried on in the parish of Ayr, requiring a large amount of labour?—No, not in the parish of Ayr.

3208. Are there in the district of Ayrshire, of which you speak?—There are in the district of Ayrshire; but not many of the parties employed at those works, I believe, are in the parish of Ayr.

3209. If you were told that pauperism was decreasing in Ireland, would your fear of an increased migration of poor from Ireland to Scotland be diminished, provided you had such authority as you could perfectly rely upon?—If I had such authority as I could perfectly rely upon, that all the people in Ireland were finding sufficient occupation at home, and that those who were past labouring were well taken care of there, then I should not be afraid, but at the present time they seem to prefer very much their treatment in Scotland to their treatment in Ireland.

3210. I think your object, and a very natural one of course, in giving the numbers which you did with reference to the parish of Ayr, was to show that the burthen upon the parishes in Scotland was increasing instead of diminishing; in their Seventh Annual Report, just published, the Irish Poor-law Commissioners

say this, "We mentioned in the 15th paragraph of our last Report, that according to certain returns contained in the Appendix to that Report, there were very few departments of labour in Ireland in which the money rate of wages was higher in the beginning of 1853 than it was in 1845, the year before the commencement of the famine; we have lately referred to our inspectors for further information on this point, and it may be stated as the combined result of their reports, that there is now observable a material increase in the money value of agricultural labour, to the extent of about 1 *s.* per week on the average throughout Ireland; it seems also that agricultural employment has been more continuous than formerly." Does that statement, made upon the very highest authority, in any way diminish your dread of an increased burthen upon the parishes of Scotland from future Irish migration?—I do not collect from that statement what the daily wages made by a labourer in Ireland are; I was informed lately by an Irish farmer, who has taken a large extent of land in Ireland, that he paid there 10 *d.* a day. I think an Irish labourer in Ayrshire now can make half-a-crown a day.

3211. Mr. Crawford speaks of the counties of Dublin, King's, and Wicklow, and he says, "In the rural parts of the district there is an increase in the rate of wages paid to agricultural labourers, which has risen from 5 *s.* to 6 *s.* per week, and in many instances in the neighbourhood of towns, 8 *s.* is given." Do you not think that that shows such an increase in the amount of wages in Ireland as would discourage migration to Scotland?—I do not think so; I know two Irish labourers at present, one of whom has a house and the other has not, but those men, good days and bad days, whether they work or not, get 10 *s.* per week.

3212. But does not it show such an increase of activity of employment in Ireland as would, at least, discourage a pauper migration to Scotland?—No; when men can get in Ayrshire 10 *s.* or 11 *s.* a week (and they can get 15 *s.* at the railways in Scotland), I do not think they will remain for 8 *s.* in Ireland.

3213. You speak of the industrial class; if there is such an increase in wages as this report exhibits, is there any great dread of a pauper migration to Scotland; I am not speaking of migration of labour?—I do not think that that increase in labourers' wages will prevent a pauper migration; we find that many come over; we find upon the roll some 69 years of age, and others 70 years of age; if you deduct five years from that you see how old they must have been when they came over, and they cannot have come for the purpose of getting any active employment at that age, I should think; and I observe that they do not seem to have any great desire to return home again. I asked the clergyman to whose congregation many of them belong if many of them had returned again, and he said, "No; that many go out into the country, here and there, but do not return to Ireland.

3214. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have those parties of whom you speak of, 69 years of age, families working in the district?—Some of them may have, but many of them have not.

3215. Mr. *Maguire.*] Mr. Huband, speaking of his district of Galway and Mayo, says, "More than usual activity prevails among all classes of labourers and artisans." At any rate, is not that statement encouraging to you as a Scotchman?—Partly.

3216. Mr. Barron, speaking of the counties of Cavan, Fermanagh, Donegal, Longford, Monaghan, Leitrim, Meath, and Westmeath, says, "The wages given are higher than last year, and from the increasing prosperity of the country there is every likelihood that they will be still higher." If you dread an increased migration from Ireland, that is encouraging to you, is it not?—So far; but I conceive that if the rate is rising in Ireland it will also, in a greater proportion, rise in Scotland. It was only last Monday, on passing through Ayr, that I saw a fresh arrival of Irish labourers; from their appearance they were a different class than they were before; I presume they came to work at the Ayr and Dalmellington Railway.

3217. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Was it an arrival of labourers and their families to settle, or labourers in expectation of the hay-market?—I only saw themselves.

3218. Mr. *Maguire.*] This is the statement of Mr. Horsley, speaking of the counties of Cork and Kerry, "During the busiest period of the present season, the supply of really able-bodied and otherwise good agricultural labourers has been extremely limited." I direct your attention particularly to this paragraph, "And labourers, who would scarcely have been ranked as such in former years, readily find employment at moderate wages. The drain of able-bodied male labourers,

labourers, by emigration, has been the chief cause of this, and there is but little appearance of that drain receiving any check, judging by the desire for emigration which is evinced by the people themselves, and the large sums remitted for that purpose by relations who have already emigrated." Would not a statement of that kind, to a certain extent, diminish your apprehension?—To a certain extent, but still so long as the rate of wages remains so much higher in Scotland than it is in Ireland I think there will be a great influx of Irish labourers.

3219. If the emigration drain has diminished the number of labourers in Ireland, must not that have a natural tendency to increase the price of labour in that country?—Certainly.

3220. Have you heard that the operation of the Encumbered Estates Act is very beneficial to Ireland, inasmuch as it employs a considerable amount of capital in the cultivation of the land which before was locked up?—I have heard so; I have no personal knowledge of it.

3221. If 12,000,000 or 14,000,000 of money were laid out in the purchase of land by a new set of proprietors, within a very recent period, do you not think that that, in a short time, must have a great tendency to increase the demand for labour, and increase also the wages of the labourer?—I should think it would.

3222. You have no personal knowledge of it?—No personal knowledge at all.

3223. You spoke about the descendants of Irish in Scotland; are they a better class than those who are born in Ireland and go to Scotland?—I cannot say that there is much difference among them.

3224. In the district of Ayrshire that you know, of what class are the descendants of Irish generally?—The greater part of them are employed either as drainers or working in coal mines; in the parish of St. Quivox there is a coal mine, and a great many are employed in the coal mines.

3225. Are they tolerably well conducted?—Except that they are very much given to drinking.

3226. I believe that is a vice very common in Scotland, is it not?—Very much so, but it is very common among the miners.

3227. And as common among the Scotch miners as the Irish, I suppose?—I do not know any Scotch miners.

3228. Generally speaking, is not that vice as common to the Scotchman as to the Irishman?—I think it is.

3229. With this difference, that the Scotchman is quiet in his drink, and the Irishman is noisy in his drink?—I cannot say much upon that.

3230. Would you be inclined to say, from your knowledge of the descendants of the Irish—of course your acquaintance is limited to certain districts—that they were the scum of society?—Not at all.

3231. You say that generally the infractions of the peace arise from their drunken habits?—I think so; but, if I may use the expression, the cross-breed between the Irish and the Scotch is the worst class of all; the pure descendants either of Irish or of Scotch are better than the cross.

3232. Then the Irish breed is not much improved by the Scotch cross?—I do not think it is.

3233. Do you not know, or have you not some knowledge of the fact, that emigration is on the increase in Ireland year after year?—Yes.

3234. That there is a very strong tide of emigration towards the United States?—Yes, and so it is in Scotland.

3235. Is it your opinion that that must have a material effect upon the social condition of Ireland?—No doubt.

3236. Then if there be a demand for labour at home will not there be less inducement for the labourer to carry his labour to Scotland?—No doubt; but still I think there is a class who do not labour, and whose object is not to labour, who come to Scotland.

3237. You spoke of a conversation which you had with an Irish workman, and that he was saying that the five years' residence which established a settlement was a mere pretence; that is the scope of what he said?—Yes.

3238. In order to establish a settlement in Scotland must not a man have employed himself in industrial pursuits for five years, without any application to the parochial authorities for relief?—That is the meaning of the enactment; but unless you can show that the man has been begging, or that he has asked for

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parochial relief, you cannot object; he may have been living by his wits, or in any way he pleases.

3239. You say that this Irishman gave, as an illustration of this mere pretence and humbug, that a man who was on the roll was pounding sandstone?—It was a woman.

3240. Just state the nature of that employment?—They go to a quarry and get some of the sandstone, and pound it, and put it into a bag, and hawk it about the country; they sell it for a small sum of money, and then they pick up something else besides.

3241. If they confine themselves entirely to pounding sandstone, or work of the kind, does it not show a desire to live by industry?—To a certain extent.

3242. Then as to winding yarns, is there anything ignominious or morally degrading in that?—Not in the least, but it shows that the person resorting to it is gaining a livelihood with very little resources for that purpose.

3243. Supposing the person is content with that employment, and is able to support himself or herself by it, would not the spirit which induces them so to employ themselves prevent their being a burden to the parish?—I doubt it.

3244. These persons did positively support themselves for five years?—They lived for five years without application for relief, and, as far as we know, without common begging.

3245. Then do you not suppose that they lived by their own industry?—In law, but we do not know that they did in fact, because they might have got private aid from benevolent persons.

3246. Or they might not?—Or they might not.

3247. Would an application to any medical institution for relief, such as a hospital or an infirmary, have the effect of breaking the settlement?—The words of the statute are, they must have maintained themselves without asking for or receiving parochial relief, or without having recourse to public begging. I therefore do not think that getting assistance from any hospital or infirmary or dispensary, or anything of that kind, would entail, under the terms of the Act, the cutting off of that residence.

3248. Do you know whether such is done?—I have not seen the judgment myself, but I have been told of a judgment, which has been acted upon in two contiguous parishes, St. Quivox and Ayr, that the Court of Session has found that a payment of 4*s.* 6*d.* did not cut off the settlement; but it does not appear to me that that judgment is in consonance with the Act.

3249. I am rather speaking of medical relief. I suppose a case where a man is disabled by an accident or becomes ill, and applies for medical relief and is received into the hospital and supported there for some time, does that or not break the settlement?—I know of no case; but I do not think it would break the settlement.

3250. It has not broken the settlement, so far as you know, and your knowledge is circumscribed to these two districts in Ayrshire?—Yes.

3251. I asked you awhile ago whether any extensive works were carried on in the districts of which you have given your evidence, namely, Kyle and Carrick?—There are extensive coal mines carried on in the parish of St. Quivox; there are none in the parish of Ayr; there are no coal mines, nor mines of any kind in Carrick, except lime quarries.

3252. Are there any public works of any kind?—Only one public manufactory; in Dalmellington there are works carried on of Mr. Holdsworth. I have no return of them.

3253. Which particular employment absorbs the largest amount of labour in those districts which you speak of?—The coal mines.

3254. Which coal mines are those?—St. Quivox.

3255. How many people are employed?—I do not know.

3256. Are there several hundreds?—No; I do not think there are many hundreds.

3257. Are there many Irish employed?—Yes, they are all Irish, at least as far as I know; the headsmen are Scotch, but all the others are Irish.

3258. Will you give me some reason why the Irish are so largely employed in that particular department?—The Scotchmen preferring other employment.

3259. Then do they find the Irish prepared to undertake this very laborious employment?—They undertake very laborious employment at very high wages.

3260. Is not the prosecution of a great work of that kind of great value to Scotland?—No doubt it is.

3261. And therefore it is of great importance to have a class of men hardy and willing to undertake that particular labour?—Yes.

3262. And if there be any concomitant evils, do not you think that they are more than outweighed by the advantage of having this sturdy laborious population?—I have not said that there are any evils in the maintenance of those men who come over to work and gain a fair honest residence; but I say there is an evil in others coming over who do not come for the purpose of working, which I most thoroughly believe is the fact, though it is impossible to produce legal evidence of it. I may say that I have one Irishman in my own employment now; he has been with me 18 years, and I never had a better workman; I have no objection to having him; but a man comes over under the pretence of coming over for hard work, and after having been some time in the country some of his relatives come over (this I believe to be the fact, but I cannot prove it), and he helps them, and they get a little assistance from some benevolent individual, till the time of their residence expires, and then they come upon the roll.

3263. Do you suppose that the reason why those relatives come over is, because they cannot find employment in their own country?—I think it very likely that they do not like being in the workhouse, and they cannot get out-door relief.

3264. Are you not aware that, generally speaking, most people are inclined to become industrious, and support themselves, rather than be thrown upon the parish as a burden, thereby losing their social status?—We do not find that among the Irish.

3265. You attribute the habits of mendicancy amongst the Irish to the prevailing habit existing in Ireland; that is the feeling, I suppose, generally entertained by Scotch people?—I dare say it is.

3266. If you knew that mendicancy was every day diminishing in Ireland, would you not have less fear of a pauper migration from Ireland to Scotland?—When people are made more comfortable in Scotland than in Ireland, I think you will have them coming over.

3267. Do you not think that the deliberate statement of these gentlemen, who speak under responsibility, shows that the state of things is improving?—I think it shows a state of amendment, but very poor amendment, when a hard-working man can only get from 5 *s.* to 8 *s.* a week for his work.

3268. I believe the average is from 6 *s.* to 8 *s.*?—Six shillings to 8 *s.* I think very low wages; I give at home now to Irish women weeding in the fields, 6 *s.* a week.

3269. If the emigration drain increase, and if the demand for labour increase at the same time, as a necessary consequence, must not the amount of wages rise steadily?—I should think so.

3270. Then if you have the statement of these official gentlemen that the emigration drain is still continuing, that the demand for labour is increasing, and that employment is becoming more general, would you not form the natural deduction, that wages will increase every year, so long as these causes continue to operate?—Probably.

3271. To what other deduction could you possibly come?—I have no other.

3272. Colonel *Blair*.] In the towns along the coast of Ayrshire, take the towns of Girvan, Ayr, Troon, and others, there has been pauperism to a greater extent among the Irish than among the Scotch residents, has there not?—That I think appears already from the returns.

3273. Among the descendants of the Irish in those parishes is there more pauperism than among the Scotch?—I have already stated that the poor descendants of the Irish, and the Irish themselves, I think, are very much in the same situation.

3274. With regard to vagrancy in Ayrshire, can you state whether it has increased or decreased within the last four or five years?—I cannot speak with regard to vagrancy. I have a return from the police of the number of vagrants, but cannot rely upon it, because I think they have included as vagrants many persons that I should not call vagrants. I think they have included persons in search of work and who have fallen into distress, and asked for some little assistance by the way.

3275. With regard to the parish of Dundonald, I think you stated that the amount of poor was 192; Irish 37, and 28 dependants?—Yes.

3276. The parish of Dundonald, with the exception of the port of Troon, is a rural parish?—Yes.

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3277. Can you give any statement of the number of Irish who landed at Troon in any year?—No, I cannot.

3278. In the inland parishes in Ayrshire is there any want of labour in the coal mines?—I am not aware of any want of labour in the inland parishes; there has been a want of agricultural servants of late, ploughmen and dairy-women; but the Irish are never employed in those capacities.

3279. In the mines in those inland parishes you have not heard of any want of labour?—No.

3280. Though in those parishes there are not but few Irish?—Very few.

3281. Mr. *Liddell.*] A long series of questions has been put to you by the Honourable Member for Dungarvon, tending to shake the opinion which you expressed as to the probability of a continuance of the emigration of pauper Irish to the Scotch coast; do the facts which you have observed at all lead you to alter the opinion that you have expressed?—No. Emigration has been going on, and it appears that the influx of the Irish poor into Ayrshire has been increasing.

3282. You stated that in the parish of Ayr alone, the progressive increase of Irish paupers from 1846 to the present time has more than doubled itself?—Yes. I think you will find if you look at the analysis of the poor in the Appendix to the Report of the Poor-law Commissioners, that in the year 1843 the number of Irish poor in St. Quivox was 50; they are now 95, besides 16 born of Irish parents.

3283. Therefore you may reasonably wait until you perceive some diminution of this influx of Irish immigrants into Scotland before you can concur in the belief that that immigration is likely to diminish to the same extent as the Honourable Member for Dungarvon supposes?—Until I see the influx diminish, I shall not place much reliance upon the statements which are made.

3284. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is the desire on the part of the Scotch people to emigrate, either to the States or to Canada or to Australia, on the increase?—Yes.

3285. To your knowledge, is it increasing every year?—This last year a great number of agricultural labourers have gone.

3286. Do you think that the number will increase next year?—Very likely it will.

3287. What is the opinion entertained in Scotland about it?—I cannot say that I am aware of the general opinion.

3288. Are there any apprehensions entertained as to an undue diminution of labour?—No, not in the part of the country that I am acquainted with.

3289. Might it not increase so as to be dangerous?—It might; but there are always fresh hands coming up; there are young lads coming up in place of the older persons; men of 30 years of age, who go away.

3290. Do not you think that the desire for change is more consonant with youth than with mature adults?—Not when a man has got to an age to support himself.

3291. At any rate Scotch emigration is increasing?—From the Highlands last year it increased very much; but I am speaking of my own part of the country when I say there has been some emigration of agricultural labourers; there was more last year than the year before; the reason was that parties got settled abroad, and it induced some of their relatives to go out to them.

3292. If you find that Scotch people are settled abroad, is it not more probable that remittances will be sent from abroad to enable their relatives to come over?—Those that I speak of are not in a situation to require remittances.

3293. At all events, if the emigration from Scotland to the States and Canada increases very much, Scotland will be in want of new blood, as it were?—The class of labourers that I speak of now cannot be replaced by Irish labourers, because I do not recollect in my life ever seeing an Irish ploughman in Scotland.

William Smythe, Esq., called in; and Examined.

W. Smythe, Esq.

3294. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you were for some years connected with the Board of Supervision of the Poor in Scotland?—I was.

3295. In what capacity?—I was Secretary to the Board of Supervision from the time of its institution, in 1845, to the autumn of 1852, when I resigned my office. I was also Secretary to the Poor-law Inquiry Commission, which was in operation

operation from 1843 to about the middle of 1844, the Commission to which Mr. Campbell has referred in his evidence, and of which he was one of the members. Since the autumn of 1852 my connexion with the Board of Supervision has entirely ceased.

3296. Since that time you have resided upon your estate in Perthshire?—I have.

3297. You have had occasion to pay particular attention to the subject of the operation of the 8th and 9th Victoria, chap. 83, I believe?—I have; it is the Act under which my office was created.

3298. Has your attention been turned particularly to the subject of the removal of Irish paupers from Scotland, under the 77th section of the Act of Parliament?—I presume that the Committee are already quite acquainted with the details of the provisions of those sections of the statute.

3299. They have already been stated to the Committee; the whole provisions, I believe, are contained in the 77th, 78th, and 79th sections of that Act of Parliament?—They are.

3300. What information can you give the Committee as to the operation of that Act of the 8th and 9th of Victoria?—I should wish to mention that the powers given to the parochial Boards under those sections of the Act, are altogether independent of the Board of Supervision; and that anything which has been done by the parochial Boards under those sections was not done by the authority or under the control of the Board of Supervision. The Board of Supervision had no power to make regulations by which paupers were to be removed to England or Ireland; and the only thing that they did was to make certain recommendations as to the mode in which the law was to be enforced; they also framed the forms of depositions, and of warrants of removal for the guidance of the parochial officers.

3301. We understood from Sir John M'Neill that that was done almost immediately upon the passing of the Act of Parliament?—It was.

3302. So far as you have had the means of observing, have the parochial authorities in Scotland acted generally in consonance with the recommendations which were so given to them by the Commissioners?—I believe that they have. Various complaints were made to the Board of Supervision, while I was secretary, coming through the Poor-law Commission Office in Dublin; and I may say that, with respect to every one of those complaints during the time that I was in office, we found upon investigation that the statements were incorrect, or very much exaggerated, and that really there had been no illegal removal.

3303. Have you any particulars to add to the statement of fact which has been given here by Sir John M'Neill as to the operation of this law?—I think that there was a class of cases which Sir John M'Neill did not allude to in his evidence; notes of the cases were furnished to the Board of Supervision by a set of gentlemen in Edinburgh; Dr. Alison was one of the leading parties of society; Dr. Alison is a person of whom I wish to speak with the greatest respect; he is one of the most benevolent men that can exist; but he is a little too ready to believe all the statements of paupers, and it too often happens that he is imposed upon. We had occasion to investigate some of the cases which were then brought before the Board; and when the parochial authorities had an opportunity of stating their side of the question, we found that there was really no just cause of complaint. There may be cases of hardship arising from the present law, and even from the mode in which it is required to be executed; I am not prepared to justify the practice in every respect; I think it is capable of some improvements.

3304. Do you agree in the opinion which has been expressed here, that the cases of illegality in removal are comparatively few?—Very few indeed.

3305. You are aware, probably, that that opinion was expressed both by Mr. Power and Sir John M'Neill?—I was not aware that that was Mr. Power's opinion.

3306. Is it one in which you concur?—I quite concur in it; in every case which I had myself personally an opportunity of investigating, that was the result.

3307. Have you any suggestions to make to the Committee with reference to any alteration in the law as the result of your experience? In the first place, what is your opinion upon the suggestion which has been made before this Committee, that the power of removal of Irish paupers from Scotland should be taken away altogether?—I should be very sorry to see the power of removal abolished altogether, not so much because I think that it operates as a check upon the

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influx of Irish immigrants, but because I think it operates as a very effectual check upon applications for relief, and it is also a great additional test of pauperism; the inspectors of the poor, finding that they have this hanging *in terrorem* over the heads of applicants, find that they really do not come and apply for relief, that they make shift to live from some other resources, and that the burden upon the ratepayers in Scotland is thereby considerably diminished.

3308. I believe you have the workhouse test, to a very small extent, in Scotland?—The number of workhouses is small, but the number of the population who have access to the workhouses is considerable. I may explain that, by saying that there are workhouses in almost all the large towns, which embrace a considerable portion of the population, and there are also workhouses for combinations of parishes, and it is those parishes which are most populous in which the workhouses have been established. The exact proportion is stated in the last annual report of the Board of Supervision. I cannot state the numbers myself, but I believe it will be found that the workhouse test may be applied to a very large portion of the population.

3309. That you have the means of doing?—Yes.

3310. Are they increasing?—Workhouses are increasing.

3311. Have the parochial Board a discretion as to the application of the workhouse test in all cases?—Entirely.

3312. The system of relief, I suppose, is generally out-door relief?—Entirely, in country parishes.

3313. And have these large towns of which you speak, where workhouses are existing, adequate workhouse accommodation?—They find the workhouse accommodation adequate for all the cases that they wish to test; they do not go upon the system of general in-door relief.

3314. Are they mostly new workhouses?—I do not believe that there were above five or six workhouses in the whole of Scotland, and they were conducted upon the very worst system when the Poor-law Amendment Act was introduced.

3315. The workhouses which have been introduced since, I suppose, have been built voluntarily by the parochial Boards, or combinations of parochial Boards?—By the parochial Boards, or combinations of parishes.

3316. And subject, I suppose, to the approval of the Board of Supervision as to their arrangements and classification?—The plan must be submitted to the Board of Supervision, and the workhouse must be approved by the Board of Supervision before any inmates can be admitted.

3317. Have you any notion how many workhouses have been built in Scotland under that plan, subject to the approbation of the Board of Supervision?—I could not give you the exact numbers; but they are all stated in the reports of the Board of Supervision.

3318. Sir John M'Neill, I think, said, when he was examined here, and I beg to ask whether you concur with him, that there is about one parish in ten in Scotland which is provided with the means of workhouse accommodation?—Taking the parishes, I have no doubt that Sir John is perfectly correct; but I think that the proportion would be found very different if you were to take the population.

3319. Could you tell us, from memory, what is the proportion?—I could not.

3320. But it is to be found in the last report?—It is.

3321. Mr. *Liddell.*] You have stated that the system of relief in Scotland is entirely out-door relief in the country parishes; is not the cause of that that you have no such thing as able-bodied paupers in Scotland?—I do not know whether it is the cause; but we have no such thing as able-bodied paupers; that is to say, it has been held by law that an able-bodied man has no right to claim relief.

3322. Therefore the relief which is given out of doors is almost entirely confined to the infirm and the impotent?—Strictly so. In cases of temporary distress and want of work the parochial Boards have a power to assist able-bodied men, and that power has been occasionally called into exercise, but the normal state is that all our poor are impotent poor.

3323. And those cases, I presume, usually occur in the densely populated manufacturing districts?—They do; Paisley is one of the great places where the law has been found necessary to be applied.

3324. *Chairman.*] Is there a workhouse at Paisley?—Two for the two parishes,

parishes. I find by the eighth annual report of the Board of Supervision that the total number of poorhouses in operation at the date of that report was 26.

3325. I think you said that six or seven of those were the old ones?—About six or seven; not more than that, I think. The population to which these poorhouses extend is stated to be 865,686, that being about one-fourth of the total population of Scotland.

3326. You were going on to state the reasons which led you to the conclusion that it would not be advisable to do away with the power of removal altogether; will you proceed with those reasons?—My reasons are very simple; they are just those two reasons which I have stated—that I think that it operates as a most effectual check upon parties applying for relief, and that it is also an additional test which the relieving officers have the power of applying as to pauperism. I may mention that the parties in Edinburgh to whom I alluded stated that the power of removal was objectionable upon the very ground that it prevented persons from coming upon the poor's roll who would otherwise have been chargeable; that was one of the hardships which they complained of; that these persons were really objects of relief, but that they were afraid to apply for fear that they might be removed, and the consequence of that was, that they got the means of living from some other sources, their friends, or from some one or other.

3327. You believe that that has acted extensively?—I have no doubt of it.

3328. I understand it to be your opinion that there is no adequate workhouse test generally in Scotland, or in a great part of it?—No, certainly not. I should also wish to state that I see no reason why the law with respect to English and Irish paupers should be different from the law with relation to Scotch. If there is any hardship in the principle of the present law of removal, it applies equally to parties natives of Scotland, but coming from distant parts of the country, from the Highlands, from the Orkneys, or Shetland, and becoming residents in the south of Scotland. Those parties, should they lose their right of settlement by residence, are liable to be sent back to the parish of their birth; therefore there is no peculiar hardship as affecting the Irish more than the Scotch. The fact, I believe, is that the Irish, from their being more migratory in their habits, do less acquire a settlement by residence, and are, therefore, more likely to be removed; but, upon the other hand, any hardship that arises from the rupture of what are called local ties does not exist as to them, because, from their very habits, they have not formed any local ties.

3329. Have you any means of judging whether the system of relief which you have in Scotland is considered more or less eligible by the Irish paupers than the system of relief established in their own country?—I can only say generally that I believe every pauper prefers out-door relief to in-door relief.

3330. Have you any other reason to add which leads you to the conclusion which you have intimated to the Committee?—No, I have not; I have no dread of an influx of Irish labourers, but I think it is desirable that we should preserve such a check as we have, for the sake of preventing there being too great a pressure upon the rates.

3331. Assuming that that check should be preserved, will you now favour the Committee with any suggestions for an improvement of the law in that respect?—I have thought a great deal on that subject, and particularly with reference to the evidence of Sir John M'Neill, and I quite concur with him in thinking that the proper course would be to place the matter under the control of the Board of Supervision, to allow them to frame rules which should be binding upon the parochial Boards; at present, they have no power to do so. If the parochial Board appoints an independent officer—not the inspector of the poor (who is subject in some degree to the Board of Supervision), but an independent officer—to carry out the removals, he may do it in any manner he pleases, without being subject in any way to the control of the Board of Supervision. Now, if the Board had the power to make rules, and if the parochial Boards were obliged to conform to those rules, I think it might be safely entrusted to them to see that there was no harshness and no inhumanity in the manner in which the law was put in force.

3332. So that there should be in the statute itself, in general terms, a power given to the Board of Supervision in Scotland to make certain regulations which should have a statutory effect?—There is so.

3333. Upon what points would you think the practice capable of improvement; supposing Parliament should be of opinion that instead of leaving it to

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the Board of Supervision, it was desirable to enact it directly in the form of a statute, what recommendations would you now make for the purpose of improvement?—It would be necessary that there should be some very stringent regulations to secure that the party really was in a fit state to be removed medically.

3334. What do you suggest upon that point?—I think that he should be examined by the medical officer both before he is sent, which is the case now, and after he is delivered in Ireland.

3335. That is, the medical officer of the Irish union to which he is sent?—Yes.

3336. And the medical officer of the Scotch parish before he leaves?—Yes.

3337. Would you have a more minute examination by the latter than is required by the Act of Parliament at present?—Yes; I think that the terms of the certificate might be altered with some effect, to show that the case really is one which may be safely removed.

3338. You are aware that at present the Act prescribes that there shall be "a certificate on soul and conscience, by a regular medical practitioner, setting forth that the health of such a person, his wife and children, is such as to admit of such removal?"—Yes; to admit "without injury to his health," I think, was the introduction which Sir John M'Neill proposed.

3339. And you concur in that?—I do.

3340. Is there any other suggestion which you would make?—It has been suggested that notices might be sent to some of the parties in Ireland where the pauper was to be received; this would be a very good plan if it were practicable, but I doubt much whether in the present state of the law in Ireland, any such notices could properly be given, or whether there are any parties who could receive them; for instance, it is very difficult to ascertain from an Irish pauper the part of the country to which he belongs; but even if you ascertain the part of the country to which he belongs, he is not particularly chargeable upon that part of the country more than upon any other district of Ireland. It is easy enough to determine whether he is a native of Ireland or not, and whether or not he has acquired a settlement in Scotland. These are the only facts which the sheriff, or the two justices who have the power of granting warrants of removal, are required to determine under the present Act; but I think there is a difficulty in fixing him to a particular place in Ireland, and consequently, that there is a difficulty with respect to the notice; I think, however, that these are details which, supposing regulations were to be made by the Board of Supervision, might very safely be left with them.

3341. Do you think that there are improvements which could be introduced into an Act of Parliament if the Legislature should think it desirable not to vest in the Board of Supervision that power, but should prefer to lay down certain improved rules themselves?—The only legislative alterations which I think can with safety be made, according to my knowledge of the subject, and of the Irish law, are regulations with respect to the condition of the pauper before he leaves Scotland, and as to the mode in which he is to be conveyed to Ireland.

3342. You think it would be preferable, as far as the Legislature could be prevailed upon to do so, to give certain discretionary powers to the Board of Supervision, for the purpose of framing regulations in order to carry out the Act safely, and at the same time humanely?—I should wish to mention that by an Act which was passed in the same Session of Parliament as the Scotch Poor-law Amendment Act, there was a certain power of appeal given to the parties in Ireland, thinking themselves aggrieved, by removals from Scotland. That was to be carried on through the Poor-law Commissioners in Ireland. But it so happened, from some neglect on the part of the framers of that Act, that the right of appeal was given against the heritors and Kirk Session, in Scotland, and the magistrates in boroughs; these were the bodies which, previously to the Poor-law Amendment Act, were the administrative bodies in parishes. But the Poor-law Amendment Act substituted the present parochial Boards instead of the heritors and Kirk Session and the Borough Magistrates, and the date of the Poor-law Amendment Act being antecedent to the date of this Act giving the appeal, it has, in fact, become nugatory; I dare say the Committee are aware of that circumstance.

3343. An opinion has been expressed here by Sir John M'Neill, and confirmed, I believe, by the Honourable Member for Greenock, that there would be a power of recovering by civil process any expense that the Irish union might have been

been unjustly put to by an illegal removal?—I have no doubt there would; but it would be a very expensive process.

3344. And, therefore, you would probably think not really practicable?—Not really practicable.

3345. The question has been put to some of the witnesses here, whether the opinion of some of the Boards of Guardians in Ireland is favourable to the retention of this power of removal; have you any means of judging what is the general opinion of the parochial Boards in Scotland as to the necessity, or otherwise, of retaining this power of removal?—The burthen of paupers of this kind falls principally upon the large towns, and, I believe, from the returns which have been already made to the Committee, it is shown that almost all the removals to Ireland have been from the larger towns. I have had frequently occasion to communicate with the inspectors of those parishes; and certainly they have a very great dread of this power of removal being taken away.

3346. Have you had occasion to ascertain their views lately upon that subject?—I have not.

3347. You say that you have left the Board of Supervision two years?—Yes; but while secretary to the Board of Supervision, I was brought by letter and by frequent interviews into very constant communication with these parties, and particularly in the years 1847 and 1848. This subject was very much discussed, and I should say that the opinion of the parochial authorities was very strongly in favour of the retention of the power of removal.

3348. What in your opinion, as far as you have observed, are the chief inducements operating upon the poorer Irish to come to Scotland?—I do not consider that parties come over with a view to be put upon the poor's roll. I think that they hear from their friends who have come over that there is some employment likely to be got for them. I think that they come in search of employment, that there are very few cases, excepting those who may come to their relations, of parties who do not come seeking employment. They very likely are uneasy at home, and they think that any change which they may have will be for the better; they fancy that Edinburgh and Glasgow are wealthy places, and that there are many odd jobs there by which they can pick up a livelihood. After having come, I would wish to observe that the vagrancy laws in Scotland are by no means stringent, and that if they find that they cannot obtain a livelihood by industrious labour, there is very little check upon their going about the country begging.

3349. When I was asking you just now about any suggestions as to the alteration of the law, I omitted to ask whether you think that any alteration could be made with advantage in your Law of Settlement as to the period of time necessary for acquiring a settlement, you having had now eight or nine years' experience of the law?—I think that the law, as settled in 1845, ought not to be changed. I see no reasons for making a change, and the same reasons which induced the Commissioners, at that time, to recommend a five years' residence, seem to me still to exist.

3350. Are you of opinion that any alteration could with advantage be made in the rule as to losing a settlement; you are aware that a suggestion of that kind has been made before this Committee?—It requires an absence of four years, and something more, before a party loses a settlement which he has already acquired by residence, and it does not seem to me to be very unfair that an absence for that time should terminate his connexion with the place where he had previously resided.

3351. Then, in fact, you do not think it advisable to suggest any alteration upon that point?—I do not.

3352. Have you had any means of judging as to the increase or diminution in the amount of vagrancy in Scotland, so far as the Irish are concerned, within the last few years?—I have not had any particular opportunities of judging of that; one of the complaints which are made with respect to the Irish who come over, and a complaint which certainly has some grounds for existence, is that the men find employment, but that, while the men are employed, the women and children go out begging; I have heard that complaint often made in all parts of the country.

3353. Does that complaint continue down to this time?—It does; I heard it made the other day in Perth; a number of Irish come to Perth; they congregate chiefly in the large towns and villages, and they go out from these places to work;

Smythe, Esq. work; they are very ready to go to work wherever work is to be heard of, of whatever kind it may be.

June 1854. 3354. Is there any further information or suggestion which you wish to offer to the Committee upon the subject of our present inquiry?—I would just beg to say that, with reference to paupers returning from Ireland, there is among the documents in the Board of Supervision, in Edinburgh, a letter from Mr. Stanley, which was addressed to me some time in the month of March 1849, with respect to a charitable association at Belfast; it is particularly with reference to paupers who return to Scotland, after having been removed. That letter referred to certain evidence which was given by Mr. Senior, who was then one of the inspectors in Ireland; and it was there stated that, in the course of the year, 295 persons had been transhipped from Belfast to Glasgow.

3355. Persons who had been removed from Glasgow?—Yes. That I state as a supplemental fact to what Sir John M'Neill mentioned, for I do not think he adverted to it.

3356. Have you any knowledge upon the subject of the extent to which these returns of paupers take place?—It was very much complained of, particularly at the period to which I formerly alluded, 1847 and 1848; but one or two cases create a great outcry as to numbers, and this is the strongest fact that ever came under my knowledge with respect to the numbers; I was not aware that there were so many.

3357. Mr. *Liddell.*] During what period was that?—It was stated to be during one year; the date of the letter was in March 1849; it must have been in the year 1848.

3358. *Chairman.*] Have you any further suggestion or information which you wish to offer?—I have not.

3359. Mr. *Liddell.*] With regard to the fact which you have just stated, of the wives and children of parties who are employed in useful labour begging about the country, suggestions have been made that it is owing to a deficiency in the police regulations of the district, or a deficiency on the part of the magistrates, who should prevent that practice; have you any suggestions to make by which you think that practice could be prevented?—I have stated that our vagrancy laws are very defective; and I do not think that the police in Scotland have the power to check parties going about begging in that way.

3360. Supposing that the police regulations were more stringent, the utmost that could be done would be to commit every party so offending to prison under the Vagrant Act?—Yes.

3361. What would be the consequence of that?—The consequence would be a very heavy burthen thrown upon the counties by the supporting these parties in prison.

3362. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Do you think that they would continue to beg, if the law were strictly administered?—I do not know; it is very difficult, by any strict administration of the law, to abolish begging.

3363. Mr. *Liddell.*] Do you not think that mendicancy, as you have observed, on the part of these Irish, is a settled and confirmed habit, or with many of them?—I am unwilling to express an opinion upon that point, because I do not believe that they would prefer begging if they could get their livelihood in any other way.

3364. But in these cases which you have mentioned, their husbands and relatives are obtaining a livelihood by individual labour?—No doubt.

3365. And therefore there does not appear to be any necessity for this mendicancy on the part of their wives and children?—No, but they are very anxious to pick up money from any quarter whatever, during the period that they are resident in a district.

3366. And that anxiety leads them to mendicancy?—It does.

3367. Therefore it may be inferred that mendicancy is a settled habit with them to a great extent?—It may be a settled habit, but I do not think that they entertain the same repugnance to mendicancy—they do not fancy that it is so degrading a profession as the native Scotch do.

3368. If they did feel that a degradation attached to the system of mendicancy, is it not manifest that they would abstain from it?—Certainly.

3369. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] If that system of mendicancy was met immediately by their getting relief in the workhouse, and no other relief, or by their being committed to prison, do you not think that that habit of mendicancy would be very quickly corrected?—I do not think it would be quickly corrected, because I believe

believe in London, where the system of police is perhaps better than anywhere else, mendicancy still prevails to a great extent.

3370. Do you think that it belongs exclusively to any one nation or race in London?—No.

3371. Mr. *Liddell.*] But in well-ordered country districts, supposing it to be checked by the s verest application of the laws against mendicancy, would not, in many cases, the remedy be worse than the disease?—Very likely it would.

3372. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] In what cases would the remedy be worse than the disease?—The remedy would be worse than the disease, in consequence of the burthen which would be imposed in maintaining those parties; because if they have committed a crime they must be sent to prison, or if they are to be relieved as paupers they must be sent to the workhouse, supposing a workhouse to exist; in both cases they would become heavy burthens.

3373. That is, provided they remained permanently chargeable?—Provided they remained for any time chargeable.

3374. But do you think that the parties of whom you have spoken, the families of men who are earning good wages, would remain for any time chargeable?—I do not know whether they would, but it certainly is the case that the men go into the country, and they do leave their wives and children unprovided for. I know that in Perth the wives and children state that as the cause of their applying for poor relief, although the husbands are known to be in the country earning wages.

3375. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Do you think it probable that the fact being known, that the vagrant law is laxly administered in Scotland, encourages Irish persons to go alone in quest of work, leaving their wives and children to pick up their living by begging; but that that practice would be suppressed by a severe administration of the law, even though, in some instances, it might cause a heavier burthen?—The law must be altered first; I consider that at present it is administered as strictly as it admits.

3376. Are you aware that in Ireland the law makes it a penal offence, in the first place, for a man to desert his wife and children, or to leave them unprovided for, if he has the means of furnishing subsistence to them; and that, in the next place, it makes them punishable if they ask alms?—The law in Scotland also makes it a penal offence for a man to neglect to maintain his wife and children, but it is very difficult to get hold of the husband.

3377. Can you suggest any practicable amendment of the law which might make the law in Scotland similar to what it is in Ireland, where it is, upon the whole, tolerably successful in preventing the practice of which you complain?—I cannot argue from any analogy with respect to Ireland, because the parties in Ireland may be of a better class than those who are in Scotland; certainly the persons that we have to deal with in Scotland are very slippery; there is no getting hold of them.

3378. During your experience of this administration of the Poor-law in Scotland, can you state to the Committee in what respect the vagrant law in Scotland differs from the law in England?—I can hardly point out; but the powers of the police are very small; it is quite a different system.

3379. It is not lawful for a constable in Scotland to apprehend a person found begging?—Not for mere begging; with respect to begging there are Police Acts in towns, local Acts, which make begging an offence and punishable; but the general law in respect to parties begging over the country is different.

3380. *Chairman.*] Some of your local Acts, I believe, give very stringent powers?—Very stringent; nothing can be more stringent than the Glasgow Act, and the Edinburgh Act.

3381. Mr. *Liddell.*] Then you would suggest, in the case of Scotland, that an amendment should take place in the general law of Scotland touching vagrancy?—I would, certainly.

3382. Mr. *J. Ball.*] During your experience of the administration of the law in Scotland, have you had complaints with respect to the removal of Scotch paupers from England to Scotland?—I do not remember one.

3383. Is it your opinion, that the working of the law gives rise to no dissatisfaction in Scotland?—I think so.

3384. Practically, are the poor persons who are removed from England to Scotland transmitted to the place where they are properly chargeable according to the law of Scotland?—The powers of removal, and the laws of removal, are

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a little different, for although the sections in the Scotch Poor-law Amendment Act were taken from the then existing law of England, there was an amending Act for England, which was passed in the same Session, and by that certain regulations were made with respect to removals from England, which do not extend to Scotland; I mean particularly those regulations by justices which direct that paupers belonging to certain districts should be removed to certain ports; we have nothing of that.

3385. In practice, paupers are removed to the borders of Scotland, and are there transmitted from one parish to another at the expense of those parishes, are they not?—No, not in practice now.

3386. What is the practice?—The practice with respect to an English pauper is to remove him to the part of the country which is most near to his parish, according to a certain list.

3387. Where removals take place by land, are they not removed to the borders, to the nearest place on the road to Scotland?—If the parish is near the borders, I suppose the pauper would be removed to the parish; for instance, removals to Leith constantly happen, and the pauper is then either delivered up to the inspector of the poor at Leith, or he is provided with means to take him to the parish to which he belongs.

3388. And you have not heard complaints from those parishes which are charged with this cost of removal in Scotland?—I have not; the costs fall ultimately on the parish to which the pauper belongs.

3389. Is it your opinion, looking to the provisions of the law as to the removal of Scotch paupers who may become disabled in England, that their removal, or on the loss of their right of irremovability in England, is just and satisfactory?—I have no right to consider it either unjust or unsatisfactory; I think it operates very well.

3390. Have you heard of cases in which persons have been removed back to Scotland who have no longer had any relatives or near connexions in the place to which they have been removed?—Such cases may exist, but very few have been brought to my knowledge.

3391. Where they do exist, does it appear to you to be a satisfactory provision of the law?—Under any system of law you may find cases of peculiar hardship. Supposing that our law were different, and that a Scotchman, having gone to England, were not removable from that country, if the period during which he had resided in England were very short, and he became suddenly incapacitated, it would be very hard that there should be no means of sending him back to his friends.

3392. Do you think it would be preferable to have a discretionary power enabling parochial authorities to send persons back at their own desire, or with their own consent; but would you wish to remove the power of compulsory removal by the parochial authorities in England: I am now speaking of the removal from England to Scotland?—I should be unwilling to leave anything to the discretion of the parties; I would rather make the law simple and uniform.

3393. You informed the Committee that you looked upon the power of removal from Scotland to Ireland not so much as a check upon the influx of the Irish labouring poor as a test to check applications for relief?—Yes.

3394. Do you wish by that that it should be understood that you would check the improper applications for relief by persons who were able to maintain themselves, or that you would induce people to find their way to a distant place, or to abstain from seeking relief, who were literally destitute, or urgently in want of that relief?—If they are literally destitute, and really in urgent distress, they will not be deterred by any such law as at present exists from applying for relief, but the exertions both of themselves and of their friends will be put forth much more vigorously if they know that there is this power of removal hanging over their heads.

3395. May it not easily happen, however, that the people may be urged into vagrancy, so as to lose any advantage which the laws for the relief of the poor give them, from the apprehension of this test which you desire to maintain?—It may be, and I believe it is the case.

3396. You believe that a considerable number of persons in Scotland resort to beggary, instead of applying for relief, because of the power of removal?—I do not say a considerable number, but I believe there is an inducement to gain a living by begging, rather than to make an application to the parochial authorities, the consequence of which would be to remove them from the country.

3397. Is

3397. Is your opinion adverse to the relief of destitute poor in workhouses?—By no means.

3398. Do you think that, upon the whole, that is the most satisfactory provision which the law can make for the relief of the destitute poor?—It would be a very satisfactory provision, supposing we were beginning upon a new system altogether, where no poor laws had ever existed; but I conceive it would be utterly impossible to do away altogether with out-door relief, either in England or in Scotland; public opinion would not permit such a thing.

3399. You are, probably, aware that the poor law in Ireland provides that in the case of the helpless poor the guardians have a discretion; but with reference to the able-bodied poor, who have no right of relief at all in Scotland, the guardians in Ireland are bound to give them relief when they are destitute in the workhouse?—My impression was that the general rule in Ireland was that all relief was in-door relief, whether to the impotent or to the able-bodied.

3400. I think you stated that your opinion upon this subject was derived very much from your communication with the parochial authorities in Scotland, and particularly with reference to the years 1847 and 1848?—Yes.

3401. You are aware that that was a period of most extraordinary disaster and pressure in Ireland?—Yes.

3402. Are you also aware that the removals from Scotland to Ireland have fallen off to a very great extent, in something like the proportion of one to six, since that period?—I understand that to be the case; I have not seen the returns.

3403. From your general knowledge of the subject, do you think that the necessity which probably existed for the power of removal at that period exists to anything like the same extent now?—Where the evil is not so great, you may not, perhaps, find the power so often exercised, but I still think that it would be a great evil to abolish the power altogether.

3404. Can you state whether the workhouse test is practically applied in those parishes in Scotland which are provided with workhouses to the Irish poor who apply for relief?—Whether it is uniformly applied in all cases I cannot state, but it is very generally applied.

3405. Is it your belief that Irish poor persons, who could maintain themselves in any other way, remain in workhouses in Scotland?—They would not be allowed to remain in the workhouse if they could maintain themselves: they would not be objects of relief in Scotland.

3406. Still I think you stated that there were a class who would apply, and would be objects for relief, if it were not for the existence of the power of removal as a test?—Certainly.

3407. When that class come to be admitted into the workhouses in Scotland, do they remain there, or do they endeavour to discharge themselves, with the view of obtaining a living, when it is at all possible for them to do so?—I would take the case of a man disabled by temporary sickness, which prevents him from following his employment.

3408. The law at present gives the Scotch parochial Board the power of removing that man back to Ireland?—The law at present calls upon the Scotch parochial Board, if that man applies, to relieve him during his sickness, and having become chargeable to the parish, they may remove him upon his being in a fit state to be removed.

3409. The operation of the law in that case clearly is not a test; it does not relieve the Scotch parish of the cost of the maintenance of that man, and therefore does not appear to be necessary for the purpose for which you desire its retention?—It is not a test in that particular case; where you assume that the party really is an object of relief from the amount of his disability, but it is a test where there is a partial disability, and where his means, for instance, might be concealed.

3410. Those cases of partial disability are precisely the class of cases with reference to which I asked you whether the workhouse test was found effectual, in other words, whether the persons so partially disabled remained in the workhouse for the shortest possible time, and afterwards obtained a living by independent means?—I wish to explain to the Honourable Member, that as soon as the partial disability ceases they are no longer fit objects in Scotland for the workhouse, or for any parochial relief at all, and the persons in the workhouse would discharge them.

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3411. Therefore, in those parishes which have workhouses, does it appear to you that you have an adequate test to relieve the parish from the support of the persons who are not fairly objects of relief?—I think that the workhouse test is a very adequate test, as far as it goes, but I should be sorry to lose what I consider to be an additional test.

3412. The rates for the relief of the poor in the large towns in Scotland are raised by assessment upon real property, visible property?—In most of the large towns of Scotland the assessment is raised upon the real rent.

3413. Can you state what the amount of those rates per pound is in a few of the large towns, we will say Edinburgh and Glasgow?—I believe in Glasgow the rate has been as high as half-a-crown and 3 *s.* in the pound.

3414. At one period?—At one period.

3415. How high is it now?—I cannot exactly tell, but I believe it is fully 2 *s.*

3416. What is it in Edinburgh?—In the city parish of Edinburgh (I speak merely from my belief) I should say the rate was not less than 2 *s.* in the pound. In the West Church parish of Edinburgh, which is a suburban parish, it is about 1 *s.* 3 *d.*

3417. Looking to the condition of the other great towns in the empire, and to the relative wealth and resources of the Scotch towns, does it appear to you that they have ground of complaint that they are unduly charged for the relief of the poor; that a householder in a Scotch town is less favourably circumstanced than a householder in an Irish or an English town?—I cannot exactly tell what the amount of rate is in such a parish as St. Pancras or Marylebone; but I do not suppose that it is more than what is paid in Edinburgh.

3418. On the whole, do you think that there is a grievance of which the householders in Edinburgh or Glasgow can complain as being unduly rated for the relief of the poor?—I do not think so.

3419. Then it is not what has taken place in consequence of the number of Irish who become chargeable that you think can fairly be complained of; it is the apprehension of something which has not yet arisen?—I should be sorry to say that I think that the Irish are the sole cause of poverty in the towns in Scotland.

3240. Looking generally at the empire, and at the provisions of the law for the relief of the poor, you cannot say that the burthen is heavier in Scotland than it is in other parts of the empire?—No.

3421. On the contrary, it is rather less?—I do not think it is heavier. I think it is considerably less than in many parts of England; it is not less than in Lancashire. I think that many of our country districts are rated fully as highly as they are in Lancashire.

3422. Then I ask you, whether, from your acquaintance with this subject, you think that the retention of the power of removal is essential to remove any grievance which now exists, or whether you merely look at it with an apprehension of something which might arise if it were removed?—I think that I perhaps may look at it with an apprehension; but my apprehension is that the burthen would be increased if we had not that power of removal.

3423. Even though the workhouse test were pretty generally applied to the Irish poor who were applicants for relief?—Even though the workhouse test were pretty generally applied to the Irish poor who were applicants for relief.

3424. With reference to the present law, and to the suggestions which have been made for its amendment, you informed the Committee that you did not think it would be practicable to give notices to the place in Ireland to which the pauper is to be removed?—Yes.

3425. At present, there being no appeal whatever, the decision as to the right of removal is left altogether to the local body in Scotland, who exercise that power?—Not to the local body; the parties who determine are a quasi-judicial body, the sheriff or two justices.

3426. However, they are persons residing in the locality in Scotland from which the pauper is removed?—Yes.

3427. And there is no practical power of appeal whatever vested in any body in Ireland?—No.

3428. Does that appear to you to be a just system in itself, that there should be a power of removal without any right of appeal?—These parties are liable to be called in question if they do anything that is wrong, just as in all those complaints

plaints which were made to the Board of Supervision. The cases were investigated, and I understand since I left the Poor-law Office that there had been one case in which the Board of Supervision held that the party was improperly removed, and that they advised measures to be taken for having the matter remedied.

3429. At the same time, you are aware that there is no practical means of complying with that suggestion?—I think that it would be very difficult.

3430. If it be expedient and right to retain this power of removal and to vest the determination of the question in a local body in Scotland, who do you think is properly chargeable with the relief of the man so removed from Scotland?—I think that it ought to fall upon Ireland, if I understand the question rightly.

3431. Would you wish to make the provision for his relief a national rate in Ireland?—I would not enter upon that question; all that I would wish is, that the parish in Scotland should get rid of the burthen; how it is to be borne in Ireland is not a matter into which I enter.

3432. If you think it right that the law should provide for the relief of the poor and you discharge the locality where the man is found destitute, I put it to you whether you do not think it right to find some other locality which is more properly chargeable with that relief?—The law of Ireland, as I understand, provides that relief should be given to a party in the district where he applies for relief; therefore when a man is sent from Scotland to Ireland he is not sent to a place where he will find no provision made for the poor, but he is sent to a place where the law makes such a provision, and where he knows that he will get relief.

3433. You are aware that a very large proportion of the people removed from the different places in Scotland are sent to Dublin and Belfast?—I am aware that Belfast is the nearest port to Glasgow, the nearest place to which they can be sent.

3434. Can you suggest any reason why the town of Belfast should be charged with the maintenance of those poor persons beyond any other?—Nothing but the fact of its geographical position.

3435. The fact that it is situated in the same island as the place in which those persons were born?—Yes.

3436. Do you think that that can be given as a satisfactory reason to the rate payers in Belfast?—I have no doubt that it is a hardship upon the ratepayers in Belfast.

3437. Then you wish to remove what you conceive a hardship upon some persons in Scotland, by substituting another hardship upon some persons in Ireland?—I only look to what is fit and proper for Scotland without reference to Ireland. If there is an undue pressure upon Belfast, it may be remedied by some Irish measure.

3438. You have stated that a large proportion of Irish persons who apply for relief in Scotland are persons who have been in employment?—No, the persons who come in search of employment. I said that I did not consider that persons came over from Ireland for the purpose of becoming paupers in Scotland; that they came over with the view of picking up a livelihood by any means that they could.

3439. Do the majority of those persons succeed in picking up a livelihood; I mean by labour?—A great many do.

3440. Therefore a great many cases of applications for relief by Irish paupers which give rise to their removal are cases of persons who have been in employment?—No doubt a great many.

3441. Is it not even a greater injustice to send those persons from the place where they have been in employment, when they become disabled, to a town in Ireland where they were not born, and with which they have had no previous connexion whatever?—It may be an apparent injustice or hardship as affecting the town; but when you look at the hardship as affecting Scotland, the case seems to me to be different. The object with regard to Scotland is to get rid of the burthen, to plant it somewhere else.

3442. Do you think that the system can, with any colour of justice to those ports in Ireland, be maintained, unless you introduce into Ireland a law of settlement and removal, in some degree similar to that existing in Scotland?—I have not considered the question sufficiently; but I have already stated that I do not see how it is possible to do anything but to land the pauper in Ireland,

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because there is no particular place upon which he would become chargeable under the present state of things in Ireland.

3443. And therefore to retain the present system, it appears essential to introduce a law of settlement and removal in Ireland?—No, I do not say that.

3444. Colonel *Blair*.] Many of those Irish who come over, in your opinion, are, when they arrive, without any ostensible means of getting work?—A great many; but what I meant to say was, that I did not think that they came with the object of getting themselves supported out of the poor's fund, or to throw themselves upon the parishes.

3445. If there was no power of removal, you think that the influx of those who come over, say to Glasgow and Greenock, and other ports in Scotland, would be greater?—I guarded myself against saying, that in my opinion the power of removal operated as a check upon the influx; I said that I thought it was useful after the parties were in Scotland. I do not think, as far as I know, that it operates much as a check upon the parties coming to Scotland.

3446. With regard to the port of Belfast, the complaints made there are, that it suffers more on account of the power of removal than other ports in Ireland; do not you think that that rests a good deal on the law in Ireland; that they do not send the paupers who are removed to that port on to their own parishes?—No doubt that is so; but it just comes to the case put by the Honourable Member, that they cannot send them to their own parishes, unless you introduce a law of settlement in Ireland. I am not prepared to advocate that.

3447. Have you ever heard that there is a sort of fund in Belfast, which has been used, and I believe is still used, to send paupers back to Scotland?—I have alluded in the evidence which I have already given to a statement which I received in a letter from Mr. Stanley, giving a detailed account of a charitable institution in Belfast, the object of which was not merely to tranship paupers sent from Scotland, but to pass paupers on to the districts to which they belonged, having landed in Belfast. It was quite unconnected with the Poor-law authorities; the Poor-law authorities could not have done anything of the kind; but in that same letter to which I alluded, it was stated that in the course of one year 15,000 people had been passed on to other districts in Ireland, having been landed in Belfast, and that 295 had been transhipped to Scotland after having been removed to Belfast.

3448. You mentioned that correspondence had taken place at certain periods with the Board of Supervision with regard to cases of hardship and illegality in the removal of paupers from Scotland; you also stated one case where the Board of Supervision acknowledged that the removal had been illegal, at least that there was a doubt about it?—Yes; that case has occurred since I was secretary to the Board of Supervision; but I have been informed that there was such a case.

3449. Was it a case which occurred from Stranraer?—No; I think it was from Perth. John Stuart's case occurred while I was at the Board of Supervision; it was in 1851. The Board were of opinion in that case that although the child was legally removed, it was an extremely rigorous exercise of the power, and they were very much against the power being exercised in that case; but the parish of Stranraer insisted upon removing the child.

3450. Can you mention, while you were at that Board, any cases reported from Ireland to the Board of Supervision, where it was stated that the paupers had not had sufficient food in their passage from the ports from which they had been removed in Scotland to Ireland?—I do not remember any particular case; there were very often cases in which there were representations of hardship and cruelty; but these statements always rested upon the authority of the paupers themselves; and we found from the officers, and from other parties who had the means of refuting them, that they were incorrect.

3451. Have you any recollection of a case which occurred in 1847, of a man of the name of Dyer, which is referred to in Question 2677?—I have no recollection of that case.

3452. It is a case where he states that he was not examined by any magistrate; that he had no removal order ticket, and was not examined by any medical man?—That case must have come under my notice, if it was reported to the Board of Supervision; I did not leave the Board till August 1852; I have a distinct recollection of that case, but I have no note of it here; I have no doubt that the records of the case must be with the Board of Supervision.

3453. Is it not always the rule that they are examined by a medical man before they

they are removed?—Yes; from the experience which I have had with regard to those cases I do not place the slightest reliance upon anything which the paupers say, even upon their oath, unless it be confirmed by other evidence.

3454. *Chairman.*] Why do you say that; do you mean that you have investigated so many cases?—In the cases which I have investigated I have found them so incorrect.

3455. And has that happened so frequently as to take away all reliance upon their statements?—It has happened in 13 or 14 cases; in almost all the cases which I have investigated.

3456. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Did I rightly understand you to say that there was no power of appeal and no mode of redress in Ireland in the case of persons illegally removed from Scotland?—I consider so.

3457. Would it not be perfectly competent if a person who had a settlement in a parish in Scotland was illegally removed to Belfast and became a burthen on the funds of the union there, so far as the law of Scotland is concerned, for the parties in Belfast, or for any parties who advanced money for the support of that pauper, to bring an action in the Court of Session, so that the parish of settlement should repay the funds advanced?—Quite so, but I guarded myself at the time by saying that the process was so expensive that I thought it would be hardly worth while, or hardly practicable.

3458. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are you aware that the guardians in Ireland have no power to expend any portion of the funds of the union in that suit, and would therefore have to conduct it, if at all, at their own individual cost?—I know nothing of the powers of the guardians.

3459. Mr. *Maguire.*] You stated to the Committee, if I understood you rightly, that a great number of cases occurred where the wives and families of persons who were well employed were in the habit of begging; have you any data upon which you can make that statement deliberately to the Committee?—I have the data of the information of the parties. I remember perfectly well an inspector of the poor, I think from North Berwick, which is in East Lothian, coming to me at the Board of Supervision and complaining of this; this was during the harvest time; he said that the parties were employed themselves at the harvest, and that the wives and children lived in some outhouse, and that during the day they were going about begging all over the country.

3460. That is at one particular period of the year; but do you mean to state it as a general fact, applicable to any portion of the year?—I think it is so. I made an inquiry in Perth, not very long ago, upon the subject.

3461. I think you stated to the Committee that these towns had police laws of their own, which were of a very stringent character?—Glasgow and Edinburgh have very stringent police laws.

3462. Has Perth?—At Perth it is not so stringent a one.

3463. What is the punishment attachable to vagrancy or begging?—I am not sure whether in Perth they might take a man up simply for the offence of begging.

3464. Suppose they do take him up, what is the punishment which he might suffer?—My impression is that the police magistrate would not convict a person simply for the offence of begging, and would not punish him.

3465. Supposing a case in a town where the law is strictly administered, what would be the penalty?—They would be sent to prison for a certain number of days.

3466. Then would not hard labour be added as a part of the penalty?—Without looking at the Police Act, I cannot say; I think that probably it would.

3467. Do not you think if the vagrant law were made stringent, and were rigorously applied by the police authorities of the various parts of Scotland, where this practice which you speak of is common, that would be quite sufficient to meet and repress it?—I do not think that any vagrancy law is sufficient to repress mendicancy.

3468. If it could be proved to your satisfaction that a rigorous carrying out of the law against mendicancy was quite sufficient to repress it in a town in Ireland, would you not argue, by analogy, that it would be quite sufficient to repress it in a town in Scotland?—It would be a strong argument in favour of a rigorous application of the law, but I certainly would not venture to say that it would have the effect of restraining all the mendicancy in Scotland.

3469. Do you not believe that if the law were strictly carried out, and a party

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punished for begging, the head of whose family was well employed, that head of that family would interfere to prevent a further transgression on the part of his relative, he being able to support that relative?—The ties between husbands and wives are sometimes very lax, and I think that they are very glad to get rid of their wives.

3470. Are they very lax amongst the Irish people, as a rule?—I do not assert so, but from the neglect which I have seen, I think they are sometimes very lax.

3471. Is not the contrary rather the rule amongst the Irish people; that they are remarkable for attachment to kindred?—I will not express an opinion upon that.

3472. You will not express an opinion to the contrary?—Certainly not.

3473. You say that you would use the law as a test; that is, I suppose, as a means of knowing whether the party be really destitute?—Yes.

3474. Would you keep in existence a law which would empower any body to send to a distant country a man, say, who had been 25, or 20, or 15 years industriously employed in Scotland, who yet had not a settlement, but who became amenable to the law because of a temporary illness or accident; first of all, is not that the law at the present moment?—It is, supposing that man not to have acquired a settlement.

3475. Suppose that man not to have acquired a settlement, but, which is a most probable case, that he has been for 20 years in Scotland, and most industriously employed all that time?—That man has no particular tie to any particular parish, or indeed to Scotland generally; there is no great hardship in removing him.

3476. How many parishes are there in Glasgow?—Four; I mean that the town of Glasgow extends into four parishes.

3477. Supposing a man had still remained in Glasgow for that time, but had removed from parish to parish, and had destroyed his settlement, and yet, at the same time, had never been a burthen upon any parish, would you maintain a law which, in consequence of his temporary illness, would give any party the power to turn him out of Scotland?—I would maintain the law if I found that, notwithstanding a particular case of hardship, it was generally expedient. I have no doubt that under any system of law, as I stated before, you might find out particular cases of hardship.

3478. The statement is, that there are many cases of the kind?—I would also say that in such a case as that, one of the remedies, if it was desirable that a remedy should be introduced at all, might be, to make a party not lose his settlement by residence under those circumstances; take the four parishes of Glasgow for instance, if it was satisfactorily ascertained that a man had actually been living within those four parishes, although he might have migrated from one parish to the other, I see no reason why, in such a case as that, the man should not be irremovable.

3479. That is by extending the residential area, if I may call it so?—Yes.

3480. You say that you would not believe any of the statements made by an Irish pauper; is not that a very strong assertion to make?—It seems perhaps a strong assertion, but I merely state that from the experience which I have had; I am not led to place implicit confidence in what they say. I have found that in almost every case which I have had to investigate the assertions which the paupers made were refuted by what I considered satisfactory authority.

3481. Is not there a very great and wide difference between implicit confidence and utter incredulity; I think you went to that extent?—I have used a strong expression; I would not believe them on their oaths (that was the expression which I used), without being confirmed by other evidence.

3482. Does not that assertion involve a very sweeping and a very fearful condemnation?—I do not think it is a greater condemnation than my experience leads me to think they deserve.

3483. Do you think that the 13 or 14 cases to which your experience is limited would justify you in forming so degrading a conclusion, and one so utterly startling. You say that your experience is confined to 13 or 14 cases which you investigated?—Yes.

3484. And upon the strength of that very limited and narrow experience you feel authorised to make such an assertion as that?—In a case of this kind.

3485. The inquiry is entirely limited to matters of this kind?—Yes.

3486. Did

3486. Did you find in those 13 or 14 cases that the parties were utterly disproved by the officials?—All the statements which went to the illegality of the removal were disproved.

3487. You have had some experience, of course, of the administration of the law; and do not you find, generally speaking, that officials of a certain class are very anxious to shield themselves from blame?—Certainly they are.

3488. Do you find that they, by any chance, ever overstep the truth?—I do not remember any case in which I can say that they have overstepped the truth; they may make a colourable statement.

3489. They are liable to exaggerate a little?—That is what I call a colourable case.

3490. According to their own views of their own interests, is not that a general rule?—Yes, no doubt they will do so.

3491. You talked of a charitable association at Belfast, and there has been a good deal said from time to time in this Committee about it; have you read the evidence of Dr. M'Gee in reference to that?—No.

3492. I suppose there was some alarm in your mind at hearing of this charitable association in Belfast?—No, there was no alarm in my mind; the matter was brought under our notice at the Board of Supervision, by the complaints that were made of these parties having been sent back.

3493. I presume you were under the idea that this charitable association had the administration of considerable funds?—Yes.

3494. Would you be very much surprised to hear that the entire funds at the disposal of that body, for the removal, or applied to the transmission of paupers, either in Ireland, or from Ireland to any other place, were, for seven years, no more than 262 *l.*?—I should be very much surprised to hear it; I think they must manage their funds extremely well.

3495. And would you be surprised to hear that a portion of those funds still remain in their hands?—I should; the amount of the sum does not in any way affect the result which was produced, which was the transmission back to Glasgow.

3496. By the funds, or through the operations of that society?—It was so stated expressly in Mr. Senior's evidence; it was positively stated by Mr. Senior, in a transcript from his evidence, which was forwarded to me by Mr. Stanley, that this association had been instrumental in sending 15,000 people from Belfast to their own localities, and that 295 persons had been reshipped from Belfast to Glasgow.

3497. But beyond those 295, have you any proof that any more were sent by that society?—No.

3498. Hearing of these gigantic operations, you are rather amazed to understand that the entire funds at their disposal for an object of that kind, spreading over a period of seven or eight years, were 260 *l.* odd?—I am very much amazed.

3499. I wish to get some information in reference to the medical charities of Scotland, how they are maintained; I mean the public hospitals and infirmaries?—I believe, with scarcely any exception, they are all maintained by voluntary charity; there are some endowed, but very few; the Infirmary in Edinburgh has funds, but they are almost, I should say, exclusively charitable associations.

3500. Are not some of them aided by grants from the Poor-law Fund?—Yes; the Poor-law Amendment Act gives an express power to the parochial authorities to contribute to medical charities.

3501. In the case of any person applying for and receiving relief from any one of those institutions, is it possible that the application for and reception of that relief would render him amenable to the Poor Removal Act?—Certainly not.

3502. Are you perfectly clear upon that?—I am perfectly clear that unless he was sent through the instrumentality of the parochial authorities, the mere admission into the hospital, through private influence, would have no effect upon his settlement.

3503. Suppose a poor man, who had resided, say five or six years in Scotland, or ten years, and had not got a settlement, received an accident and was obliged to apply to the parochial authorities in order to get medical relief, would that man be liable to be sent to Ireland?—He would; it would break his settlement, or would prevent him from acquiring a settlement, supposing he had not been there five years.

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3504. Do not you think that the existence of a law of that kind is repugnant to the spirit of justice and humanity?—No.

3505. How would you defend it?—I defend it simply upon the principle that the man has not, by his own exertions, been able to maintain himself for five years without applying for parochial relief.

3506. Would it be any fault of his that a few months previous to the obtainment of his settlement, God had visited him by a severe affliction?—It would be no fault of his, but still it would be sufficient to prevent his acquiring the right to a settlement.

3507. And therefore the law would deal with him as a criminal, for it would be nothing else?—I do not think that sending a person to Ireland is dealing with him as a criminal; I should be very sorry to think so.

3508. You look upon the continuation of the law of removal as a safeguard to Scotland?—I think it is a safeguard, as far as it operates as a check upon people applying for parochial relief.

3509. Do you not also look upon it as a check to increase immigration from Ireland?—No, I do not think so; I have more than once said that it does not appear to me that it operates in any way to affect persons coming to Scotland; it may affect them when they come, but I do not think it prevents their coming.

3510. Have you heard the evidence of the gentlemen who preceded you?—Yes.

3511. Have you heard those extracts which I read from the Report of the Irish Poor-law Commissioners?—Yes, as to the improvement in the rate of wages in Ireland.

3512. Also as to the increased employment?—Yes.

3513. As to the more cheering prospects of the country?—Yes.

3514. And as to the fact, that up to the early part of the last year, 1853, there was no increase in the rate of wages in Ireland. The report says, "There were very few departments of labour in Ireland in which the money rate of wages was higher in the beginning of 1853 than it was in 1845;" that is the year preceding the famine. You also heard me read the statements of all these officials, that from that time up to this, the improvement has been steady and universal?—Yes.

3515. Do you not think that a state of things of that sort in Ireland is likely to do two things: first, to do away with mendicancy in Ireland, and secondly, to prevent the people from going to Scotland who can find employment in their own country?—I am quite ready to admit, and I am very glad to hear of, the gradual improvement in the state of the labouring classes in Ireland; but I would not propose to legislate upon anticipation, and I would rather see the effects fully carried out, and the improvement complete, before I alter the law as it at present exists.

3516. Have you not sufficient retrospective results upon which you can form a conclusion for the future. If you found that the population of the country, from which you constantly receive accessions to your country, was diminished by two and a half millions, and that a steady drain of emigration was going on to other parts of the world, might you not, under circumstances of that sort, anticipate that there would be no great future pauper migration from Ireland to Scotland?—I think it is very fair to anticipate a cheering prospect; but I do not think it sufficient at the present time to abrogate the law.

3517. You have said that the Irish are not the sole cause of the poverty of the country; are they not, to a very large extent, a source of its wealth and progress, considering how materially they have aided in the promotion and accomplishment of great works in the last 20 or 30 years?—The Irish labourers have been extremely useful in Scotland, and they are excellent workmen; their labour is confined generally to employment of, what one may call, the lowest grade; what I mean is, that they do not find employment as skilled artisans, or handicraftsmen. They are chiefly employed in digging, draining, trenching, making roads, and that sort of work; but I am quite satisfied that, if you asked the opinion of any of the farmers in the Lothians, or in any of the choicest districts in Scotland, they would say that they are under the greatest obligations to the Irish; that they have been of great use to them.

3518. In Greenock, Glasgow, Paisley, and other large towns, have not the Irish been of great use to them?—I have no doubt of it; but I would also say, that in Greenock, Glasgow, and in Paisley, you will always find that the Irish form

form the lowest class of the population; they are always of that class which verges most nearly upon poverty.

3519. As the working class generally do?—No; there are employments and occupations which are filled up by Irish, which the Scotch do not like even to touch.

3520. But does not that show an industrious spirit rather than the contrary?—It is an anxiety to earn a livelihood.

3521. Would you leave the Committee under the idea that there are no skilled artisans, Irish born, employed in Scotland; for instance, in the works in Greenock?—I believe there are very few; my practical knowledge upon that subject extends mostly to agricultural districts.

3522. What is the general character of the Irish in Scotland, taking the great mass?—Their habits are considered to be somewhat disorderly. In all the towns one can always tell an Irish pauper, there is an appearance of poverty about him.

3523. I will put it to you, on your conscience as a gentleman, whether this is a fair description of the people there. A witness here, the other day, speaking of those who came from Ireland, said "The great mass is, unhappily, of an entirely opposite character, destitute of education, coarse and sensual in their feelings and habits, and insensible to the value of anything which does not directly minister to the gross appetites of animal nature." I would ask you, on your honour as a gentleman, is that a fair description of the great mass of the Irish?—I should say that it might be a description of the lowest class of Irish in the large towns, but as to the agricultural labourers in general it certainly is not a fair description.

3524. I ask you, is it a fair description of the great mass of the Irish-born Scotch population?—I do not think it is.

3525. I believe that they are rather remarkable for great affection for their relatives, and oftentimes make very great sacrifices for the purpose of bringing them to Scotland?—I cannot speak as to that.

3526. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You have said that you think there is no hardship in removing an Irishman who has not acquired a settlement in Scotland, though he has been there a good many years; do not you consider that there is an injustice, as well as a hardship in this: that after he has lived in one parish sufficiently long to acquire a settlement, if he then goes into another parish with the intention of living permanently there, and he becomes a pauper after four years, but before the period of five years, which is the period which the law requires to procure him a new settlement, he forfeits his settlement; is there not an injustice in forfeiting his previous settlement in a period shorter than that which the law allows him to gain one?—I do not think there is an injustice if it is according to law; it is a sort of privilege which he acquires.

3527. Is the law not unjust which forfeits the right by the lapse of a shorter time than it allows him to acquire by residence the same right in another parish?—No, I do not think the law is unjust.

3528. Mr. *Maguire.*] In reference to workhouses, in all the large towns are there not workhouses?—There is no workhouse in Dundee, which is a large town, and there is no workhouse in Perth; there are workhouses in Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Paisley, and Greenock.

3529. Therefore the workhouse test might be applied there very successfully, might it not?—It might, certainly.

3530. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You have talked about the expense of a suit for obtaining redress in the case of an illegal removal to Ireland; might not an action, such as you have spoken of, to force the parish to take the burthen of the pauper, be brought before the sheriff of the county in which the parish was?—I suppose so, if it was merely for the recovery of the money.

3531. Is that an expensive proceeding?—No.

3532. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you ever heard of a suit of the kind having been instituted?—No.

3533. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You are not aware of any illegal removal?—No.

3534. *Chairman.*] You have been asked about the workhouses in Glasgow and Greenock, and so on. In your opinion does the existing law give to Glasgow and Paisley, and such towns, the means of sufficiently guarding themselves against injustice from the immigration of the poorer Irish, independently of the power of removal?—No, I do not think it does; I think the power of removal is required as an additional means of protection.

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3535. If the guardians were to avail themselves of all the powers which they have by law, with regard to the workhouses, would you still be of opinion that they ought to have that additional power of removal as a check?—As a protection from the burthen, I think they should.

3536. Mr. *Maguire.*] I am very glad to know, and to have a confirmation of it from you, that Scotland is increasing in prosperity?—Yes.

3537. New sources of industry are opened up?—Yes.

3538. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Have you any means of knowing what per-centage of the Irish in Scotland is relieved under the Scotch poor law?—I have no means of knowing, but I believe that returns are already made, or are in preparation, which will give the Honourable Member every information upon that subject.

3539. It has been put to you, that in the case of an Irishman having resided 20 years in Scotland, and having shifted from parish to parish before having gained an industrial settlement, it is a great hardship upon him not to have a settlement; do you know what proportion of that class of the Irish has been refused a settlement, or what proportion has gained a settlement?—I have no means of ascertaining that, and I think it would be very difficult to ascertain it. It might be ascertained, perhaps, by the cases of the removals that have taken place, if it were possible, by finding out what number of removals had taken place, and the circumstances of the paupers who have been removed—how long they had been resident in Scotland,—but I know of no other way by which it could be ascertained.

3540. The proportion of that class would be infinitely smaller?—I should think it would be smaller; at the same time, I may say that I think the migratory habits of the Irish render them less likely to acquire settlements by residence than persons coming from the Highlands, or from other distant quarters, to Glasgow or Paisley, or to other parts of the country.

3541. Mr. *Maguire.*] Does not that migratory habit on the part of the Irish tend to a very good result, the free circulation of labour?—It certainly does; wherever they hear of a job they are always ready to go, and they very seldom remain in the same place; for I happened not long ago to put the question to a man who is a considerable contractor in my neighbourhood, and he told me that, one year with the other, he hardly ever employed the same people, although he employed a great number, for they went away either to other places or to America; that some whom he had employed last year had gone away to America.

3542. Therefore, in consequence of those habits upon the part of the Irish, and the temptation held out to them to go from place to place, the law of removal will operate more severely upon them than upon the Scotch?—Yes, it affects them more; but at the same time, I may be allowed to state, that it prevents their being attached to any particular part of the country by what are called local ties, and the removing them from one district to another, or from one country to another, provided they receive relief for their necessities, ought not to be a matter of any great hardship.

3543. Still the labour is given to Scotland?—Still the labour is given to Scotland.

3544. Have you any means of knowing the exact number, or anything approaching to the number, of Irish-born persons in Scotland and the descendants of Irishmen?—No; but I should think that that would be found by the last census returns. I think it was mentioned whether the parties were Irish or not.

3545. Mr. *Stirling.*] With reference to the question which has been put to you of cases of hardship arising in which an Irishman had resided in Scotland for a long time without being chargeable to the parish, but still in so migratory a manner as not to have acquired an industrial settlement, have you often had cases of that kind brought under the consideration of the Board as to hardship?—No; but I think that several of the cases which we had before the Board of Supervision were cases in which the parties were somewhat in the circumstances alluded to by the Honourable Member for Dungarvon, where they had resided in Glasgow, but in different parishes in Glasgow.

3546. The number was very small indeed?—Very small.

3547. It could hardly be cited as a real case of grievance?—I should think not.

3548. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is not a case of this kind a very probable one; Irish going from one district to another in search of labour, supporting themselves in each of those districts without ever applying for parochial relief, and then, in consequence of not finding employment, or being sick and disabled, applying for relief?—

relief?—Yes; there may be a number of such cases, but I am not aware of them.

3549. Might not a number of cases arise from accident, from the impossibility of procuring employment at particular times, or from sickness or other physical disability. Is it not possible that, in the working population, cases of that kind might constantly arise, that persons having gone from place to place, and had got a settlement through having industriously employed themselves for a considerable period, and still they might, at some one time or another, apply for relief?—Certainly.

3550. Do not all these persons so circumstanced become amenable to the law?—They do.

3551. Mr. *Stirling.*] But have many such cases as the Honourable Member has put speculatively, in which real hardship appears to have been suffered, come under your observation?—No, they have not.

3552. And of course from your position, having been so long connected with the Poor-law Board, you would have been aware of them if they had occurred?—I think I should have known if there had been much of that kind of hardship.

3553. And you no doubt would have made representations to the Board or to the Home Office upon the subject?—I should have mentioned it probably to Sir John M'Neill.

3554. Mr. *Maguire.*] But the Board of Supervision has no control over the local authorities?—As to removals, none at all.

3555. Then all the cases would not come to you?—Certainly not.

3556. Out of 5,800 removals in one year, there might be some such cases as the Honourable Member deems speculative upon my part?—No doubt there might.

3557. And if a very large amount of removals, extending over a period of four or five years, were proved, it might involve a great deal of hardship, and hardship of the particular kind which I allude to?—The question of the hardship is twofold: there is a question of hardship as regards the pauper, and a question of hardship as regards the rate-payers in Ireland. Now I am not disposed to pay any attention to the question of hardship as regards the Irish rate-payers; but if it is a question of hardship as regards the pauper, it seems to me that when persons are of those migratory habits, they form no local ties, and that it ought to be really immaterial to them whether they receive relief in Ireland, or whether they receive relief in Scotland.

3558. Would it not be a great injury to certain districts in Scotland if the Irish had not that migratory habit. Suppose there was a necessity to carry out some public work in a particular district, and, therefore, that there was a great demand for labour, but, in consequence of the fear of your laws, the Irish who lived in another part of Scotland were deterred from going to that work, and supplying the demand for labour; would not it be a great injury to that district?—I do not think that the fear of our laws deters them from doing it, because people never think about a settlement as long as they are able-bodied; and if there was any such demand for labour as that, there would be a rush of Scotch as well as Irish.

3559. Do you recollect the waterworks constructed on the Pentland Hills?—I know there was such a work.

3560. That was about three or four years since?—Yes.

3561. Is it not probable that there was not sufficient labour there to meet the demand caused by the commencement of those works?—Very probably not; I should think not, excepting that about the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, they might probably have gathered a great many people together.

3562. Would you be surprised to learn that of the whole number from 450 to 630, the Irish were 372 as compared with the Scotch?—Because the Irish were there and ready to supply the demand; but if there had been no Irish, or if they had been unwilling to leave the occupations in which they were engaged, I have no doubt that Scotch persons would have come to supply their place.

3563. The statement is made by Dr. Alison; I believe he is a reliable authority, is he not?—He is excellent authority, except when he gives too ready an ear to complaints.

3564. There is no complaint in this case?—No.

3565. There is a mere statement of fact; in a mere statement of fact where there is no appeal to the feelings, I believe Dr. Alison is a reliable authority?—Yes.

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3566. And, therefore, if he stated that two-thirds of those who were employed upon this work were Irish, you would be likely to believe it?—I have not the slightest doubt of his correctness.

3567. If there were any power to prevent the Irish from going to the Pentland Hills work, would it not be a great injury to Scotland, a great injury generally to the country, inasmuch as it would prevent the carrying out of a useful work?—Their labour is conducive to the prosperity of the country; it is so much capital introduced, and therefore, of course, it is a benefit; there can be no question about that.

3568. And, therefore, that migratory habit on the part of the Irish is not so injurious as some persons maintain?—I do not think so; it is a very useful thing to have them at hand at all times when there is any work to be undertaken.

Lunæ, 19° die Junii, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Mr. Liddell.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Maguire.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Stirling.
Sir John Young.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

James Fraser Gordon, Esq., called in; and Examined.

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3569. Mr. *Maguire.*] YOU reside in Edinburgh?—Yes.

3570. What is your profession?—A Writer to the Signet.

3571. Has your attention been called to the law of poor removal?—It has.

3572. Since when?—I may say that I have had occasion to remark its effects since 1848, or before that.

3573. Since when has it been particularly called to it; has it been called in any particular manner to it in connexion with any body or association in Scotland?—Yes; about the same time that my attention was directed to it, I understood that Professor Alison's was also directed to it, and on coming to the knowledge of that fact, I put myself in communication with him; and, in consequence, a committee of gentlemen, members of various charitable institutions in Edinburgh, and others, sat and considered the subject.

3574. When was that committee called into existence?—I see the first meeting was on the 15th of March 1851.

3575. Did that committee consist of respectable inhabitants of Edinburgh?—I will mention the names of a few of them, Professor Alison, the Rev. Dr. Guthrie—

3576. Who is Dr. Guthrie?—He is a minister of the Free Church, a very well-known person in Edinburgh, particularly as the teaching manager of the original Ragged Schools, who has had a great deal of experience amongst the poor; Dr. George Bell, Major Mair, Mr. Charles Jenner, and others.

3577. Equally respectable and intelligent?—All perfectly respectable.

3578. And highly intelligent?—All men of experience, and connected with charitable institutions; I should add, that we also had communications with Sir Archibald Alison and Professor More, the Professor of Scotch law in the University of Edinburgh.

3579. Is that committee still in existence?—It may be said to be still in existence.

3580. Are its operations practically terminated at this time?—For some time they have been suspended, but they can scarcely be said to have practically terminated so long as the evils of which we complain remain unredressed.

3581. Were several facts, illustrating what you would consider the hardship incidental to the law of removal, brought before your committee?—A number of cases illustrating the effects of the law were brought under our consideration, and in fact formed, I may say, the apology for our existence.

3582. Were these cases minutely inquired into by your committee, or for your committee?—

committee?—To the best of our power they were so; some of them were known to individual members of the committee. I was myself the means of supplying cases which came under notice, and Professor Alison also, whose experience amongst the poor is much greater than mine, furnished a number of others.

3583. Amongst the cases submitted to and investigated by the committee, I believe there was the case of Jane Traynor; do you know that case?—I know that case myself.

3584. Will you state the features of that case to the Committee?—I should, perhaps, state to the Committee, that those cases, with a memorial upon the subject, have been published in the form of a pamphlet, and have been before the public since 1852. The memorial itself was communicated to Sir John M'Neill, on behalf of the Board of Supervision, with the cases. That case of Traynor will be found at page 42 of the Appendix (B.) to the memorial, regarding amendments in the Scottish poor law.

3585. Have the kindness to read as much of that case as you think will illustrate any point which you wish to have explained or illustrated before the Committee?—This case, I may say, illustrates more particularly the hardship inflicted upon individuals, natives of Ireland, in consequence of the want of combination of parishes in towns; so that a party, after having lived, it may be, 18, 20, or any given number of years, in one part of the town, may lose the right acquired by such residence by moving, it may be, across the street into another parish, without being aware even of the boundary; the boundaries of the parishes in Edinburgh (I speak of Edinburgh more particularly) not being generally known to these poor parties.

3586. *Chairman.*] I observe, on looking at it, that there is no date given; what is the date, as nearly as you can tell us, when this happened?—I ought to be able to know the date, for I saw the poor woman herself on her death-bed.

3587. Can you give us the year?—I cannot at present.

3588. Could you supply that hereafter?—I could. [Date of removal, 3d July 1846; date of death, 26th January 1847.]

3589. But you can give the precise year?—Yes; I have the means of doing so ultimately. She "resided in St. Mary's Wynd in Edinburgh during her husband's lifetime, paying shop-rent and taxes; 12 children were born there; after her husband's death she was obliged to remove to (I believe) the Canongate, afterwards to Milne's-court, High-street. As she was nearly 70 years of age, and had only one daughter living with her, all the rest having died, or being dispersed in different places, she applied to the Charity Workhouse," that is, the city parish of Edinburgh, "for relief, which was granted; but one day, as she was washing her clothes, two officers entered her room, and would not allow her time to put on her shoes; took her into custody, and brought her to the Charity Workhouse. There was a warrant obtained for her removal to Ireland; she was consequently removed to Belfast. As her children were in Scotland, and having no one in Ireland to whom she could apply, she sold some articles of clothing in Belfast and returned to Glasgow. She was a very retiring, modest woman, and although she had only 1½*d.* in her possession when she reached Glasgow, she did not make her situation known to any one, but without means, old and feeble, undertook to walk from Glasgow to Edinburgh (about 46 miles). On reaching Edinburgh she was quite exhausted, took to her bed, and never recovered. During her illness Messrs. Gordon,"—that refers to myself, in fact; it is reported, it will be observed, by Mr. John Forrestal,—"Messrs. Gordon, Harkin, and myself visited her, and also Mrs. Conway and her daughter, of St. Mary's Wynd, who knew her for many years. Mr. Henry Wood and Mrs. Boylan, both of St. Mary's Wynd, can testify as to her being respectably established in the clothing business in St. Mary's Wynd, probably for about 18 years. In this case the evil of dividing the city into several parishes, and thereby preventing the poor from acquiring a legal claim to the funds for the poor, is painfully manifest." That is the substance of the case.

3590. Mr. *Maguire.*] How long had Mrs. Traynor lived in Edinburgh?—Eighteen years, as well as we could calculate.

3591. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Had she resided in the same parish up to the time when she removed consequent upon her husband's death?—Yes, so we understood.

3592. What state was she in when you saw her before her death?—She was in a miserable state, living in one of the upper stories of one of the highest houses in Edinburgh.

3593. Was it soon after her return to Edinburgh that you saw her?—Yes.

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3594. Did her state of exhaustion appear to be attributable to her having been removed to Ireland, and her return to Edinburgh?—I could not, of course, state positively, but I understood her to attribute her then state of health mainly to the hardships she underwent in returning from Glasgow to Edinburgh.

3595. Had she remained any time in Glasgow?—It does not appear that she remained any considerable time.

3596. How long was it from the time that she was removed to Ireland to the time when you saw her in Edinburgh?—At this distance of time I could not state positively, but I think probably it might have been a month, or even two months.

3597. Had she, in fact, made a considerable sojourn at Glasgow in her return?—I do not think she had; my notion is that she had not.

3598. In your own mind, can you attribute that case of death to the circumstance of her having been removed, and the hardships which she had endured in consequence?—That certainly was our general impression, but I should rather hesitate to express myself absolutely upon it.

3599. Colonel *Blair*.] How long did she remain in Belfast, upon her arrival there, after her removal from Edinburgh?—A very short time, as I understand.

3600. Was it a month or a week?—I cannot state that. At this distance of time I am not able to specify that case so well as perhaps the others, and I do not cite it so much as a case illustrating the sufferings of the poor, as a case illustrating the hard effects of the law in exposing such a person to removal at all, she having already acquired a settlement.

3601. That statement does not prove that by law she had acquired a settlement, does it?—There is no illegality charged; I am convinced that there was no illegality in the removal.

3602. Mr. *Alexander Hastie*.] How did she lose her settlement?—By removing from one parish to another, the boundaries of the parishes in Edinburgh and other large towns not being generally known.

3603. Mr. *Archibald Hastie*.] Is not the same law applicable to native-born Scotch as to Irish?—Yes, but in the case of native Scotch the hardship is not felt so much, and scarcely at all, because in Scotland, destitution forming a ground for applying for and receiving parish aid, it is the custom of the parochial boards to relieve the case on the spot, and then to charge the sums given to the poor person against the parish of the settlement; they do not require to apply for an order of removal.

3604. If the same means of charging to the parish in Ireland had existed, would not the same course have been followed towards this poor woman as is generally done towards poor Scotchmen?—I should suppose that it would have been done; I do not know.

3605. Then if the law had been the same, that they could go to the parish for any sums which were given in relief to a poor Irishman or a poor Irishwoman, the same relief would have been afforded to him or her as is afforded to Scotchmen under similar circumstances?—Yes.

3606. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton*.] That would imply a law of settlement, which does not exist in Ireland?—It would.

3607. Mr. *Alexander Hastie*.] But in fact if the same law had existed in Ireland which exists in Scotland, there would have been no hardship in this case?—There probably would have been no hardship in this case to the poor woman herself, excepting so far as there seems to me to be always a hardship in exposing a person who has perhaps given the benefit of his or her industry to any particular parish for many many years, and who does not go very far out of the parish, merely perhaps across the street or into another street, to the hardship consequent upon removal at all.

3608. But as you have already said, that hardship would equally apply to a Scotchman or a Scotchwoman, as to an Irishman or an Irish woman?—Just so, except the hardships consequent upon the voyage to Ireland, whatever it may be.

3609. Mr. *Dunlop*.] But the necessity of removal would not exist in an Irish case more than in a Scotch, if the parish in Scotland giving relief could have redress from the parish in Ireland?—Certainly not.

3610. Mr. *Maguire*.] In point of fact, the application of the law differently affects the native from the Irish poor?—Very much in point of fact, for the reason which I have stated.

3611. I believe removals of persons are very rare from parish to parish?—Comparatively very rare.

3612. They settle it rather by a balance of accounts than by sending the individual

individual to the parish?—Yes; it is a more economical course, as well as a more humane one.

3613. Is there a very strong feeling in Scotland (I exclude altogether the Irish) in favour of the law of settlement?—As it exists now?

3614. Yes; is not the feeling rather against it?—The great expense connected with questions of disputed settlement, the expense of litigation, and the inequality with which the burden of supporting the poor falls upon different parishes, poor parishes or rich parishes, have naturally led to the question being seriously considered how far it would not be expedient, under all the circumstances, to abolish the law of settlement altogether. I may mention one gentleman, Professor More, for instance, who is very familiar, I believe, with these cases, as one who has expressed a decided opinion upon that subject. Professor Alison also seems to be quite clear upon the point that it would be advisable. The main difficulty arises from the fact of the presence of so many Irish in Scotland, because it is naturally apprehended that were the law of settlement to be abolished altogether, so that the poor should be entitled to relief wherever they presented themselves, the effect of that would be to throw upon the Scotch parishes a burden which they consider they ought not in fairness to be called upon to bear; and hence those who are generally favourable to the abolition of the law of settlement, and the members of this committee, of which I am one amongst the rest, have felt that such a result cannot be brought about with justice and equity to all parties, except in connexion with some change in the manner of raising the rates; in short, without a national rate altogether, of which Ireland should then contribute its own proportion.

3615. Mr. *Liddell.*] Are you in favour, then, of a national rate for the support of the poor?—I speak with great diffidence upon that question, with regard to which many eminent persons are of different opinions; but I incline decidedly to that view, in consequence of the perusal of Professor Alison's works and of Mr. Pashley's, the Queen's Counsel.

3616. Supposing the abolition of the law of settlement, by which, I suppose, you rather allude to the abolition of the power of removal which exists under the law of settlement, do you see any other solution of the difficulties into which the country might be plunged by such alterations, except in the adoption of a national rate?—I myself do not see any other solution.

3617. Therefore, when you contemplate these changes of the law, you look towards that as the ultimate remedy for the evils which may possibly accrue in consequence?—I may state that my idea is based, in a great measure, upon Mr. Pashley's suggestion; he proposes that the rate should be partly local and partly general.

3618. *Chairman.*] Does not Mr. Pashley express an opinion that the power of removing Irish should still be retained?—Not in his last work; in his recent pamphlet, which I have seen, he has modified his opinion upon that subject.

3619. In the original work?—In the original work he did express himself as being favorable to its continuance; but in consequence of communications which passed between him and Professor Alison upon the subject, he intimated that he had modified, or entirely changed his opinion upon that subject; that at the time when he published his work his attention had not been so fully directed to the question as subsequently, in consequence of Professor Alison's statements.

3620. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Do you seriously mean to say that the opinion is at all general in Scotland in favour of the total abolition of settlement?—I do not say so; I say opinion is a good deal divided upon the subject.

3621. Is not an immense preponderance of the sentiment in Scotland in favour of retaining it; I do not mean against some alteration of the present law, but in favour of retaining a law of settlement in Scotland; is not that, in fact, nearly the universal opinion?—I have little doubt it must be so, since the Honourable Member must know it.

3622. I wish to know your opinion?—That is my impression.

3623. Colonel *Blair.*] Is your impression taken from the large towns, or from Scotland in general?—From the large towns chiefly, with which indeed I have been in communication.

3624. Is that in Edinburgh?—Yes.

3625. Mr. *Dunlop.*] In that case to which you referred, the woman had been absent more than four years I understand?—Yes.

3626. But not long enough to acquire a new settlement?—Not long enough to acquire a settlement in another parish.

3627. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the case of Bernard Devine?—Yes.

3628. Will you state to the Committee the particulars of that case?—That case illustrates a variety of points.

3629. *Chairman.*] Is it to be found in the pamphlet?—That is to be found in Professor Alison's paper, read at the meeting of the British Association in Belfast.

3630. What page of it?—Page 10.

3631. Have you any knowledge of that case, except that you find it in Professor Alison's pamphlet?—I have a personal knowledge of that case.

3632. You investigated it personally?—Yes; I knew the man, I may say, for a good many years; both Professor Alison and I had a personal knowledge of this case.

3633. Will you state it?—"Bernard Devine, aged 38, was well known to several highly respectable persons, who considered him a decent and inoffensive man, born in Ireland, but inhabiting Scotland for 25 years, having been employed seven years at the Clyde Ironworks, and having lived subsequently 10 years in Edinburgh. Here he brought up a family of four children, now between the ages of 15 and 5, he said, without parish aid, excepting that in 1844 and 1847 he had obtained some assistance on account of illness in his family, thereby forfeiting his claim to aid on account of any previous residence in Scotland. This poor man was apprehended, and committed to gaol for 10 days, in December 1851, on account of one of his daughters having been detected in begging. He stated as an extenuation of this offence, that his wife was then in the infirmary, and that he himself was suffering from rheumatism, and was working on the roads at some distance in the country; and he stated also, that he suffered much from cold during his stay in gaol, although he made no complaint. How far these statements may be credited I do not pretend to say, but it is certain that on the 14th of December 1851, the day after his release from gaol, he was admitted into the infirmary, suffering under pectoral complaints; remained there some weeks; left it in January 1852; but being unable to work returned and was readmitted in February, and left it on February 27th relieved, but with the memorandum in the books that he had disease of the heart and large vessels in the chest. During this illness his wife applied to the poorhouse for relief for herself and children, and received a small allowance. This was made the ground of apprehending the whole family in March 1852, in order to their being returned to Ireland. Although he had given the benefit of his labour for 25 years to Scotland, the law permitted him to be treated as a stranger; and although he certainly had this disease on him at the time, and by his own account was so feeble and breathless that he was obliged to stop twice before reaching the head of his close, one of the medical officers of the poorhouse, without making any inquiry at the hospital where his disease had been recognised, certified that he might safely be removed to Ireland; accordingly he and his wife, and two younger children were sent off at six next morning for Belfast, the two elder children, both daughters, and the eldest only 15, being *left behind in Edinburgh.* In these circumstances we cannot be surprised to find that although they reached the poorhouse at Belfast the next morning, they left it again that night, determined, as they themselves said, to return to their home and children at Edinburgh, or perish in the attempt. By the sale of clothes his wife and daughter were enabled to make their way back immediately, and although he was obliged to seek refuge again in the poorhouse of Belfast (where he said that his clothes or some of them were replaced), he eventually succeeded, by the help of aid from persons whom he had known in Edinburgh and Glasgow, in making his own way back with his young son, but was obliged to walk barefoot from Bathgate to Ratho, and when he reached his home at Edinburgh, half naked and exhausted, he had neither fire nor food. A few days after, the 14th of April, he was readmitted into the infirmary, under an aggravation of his symptoms, which he ascribed, most reasonably, to the hardships and anxieties he had thus undergone, and lay there till he died (14th of August), when the diseased state of his heart and arteries was found on dissection, as predicted. It will be observed further, that although his wife and family were deterred, by the threat of imprisonment, from applying to the parochial board during these four months, the woman was for some time in goal on account of one of her children having been detected in begging." "It is of course impossible to say with certainty what might have been the course of his disease if he had been allowed an out-pension, and made an out-patient of the poorhouse when he left the infirmary in February; my opinion is, that he might probably have now been alive and able to assist in the maintenance of his family; but I am sure that nothing has occurred in this case which can afford any security against the next case of similar misfortunes

misfortunes befalling a stranger in Edinburgh being treated in the same manner; and I think such treatment,"—he then quotes Sir Robert Peel. I should add, that the two daughters who are referred to here as having been left behind in Edinburgh while their parents were sent to Ireland have yielded, I may say, to the temptations to which they were thereby exposed, and have commenced a course of infamy upon the streets.

3634. Mr. *Dunlop.*] The law which occasioned that was the law allowing the forfeiture of the settlement?—Yes, so far as I can judge; I do not know as a fact that he ever had acquired a settlement in Scotland.

3635. Do you not say that he was seven years at one place?—Yes, at the Clyde Ironworks, and I infer that he had a settlement.

3636. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] You have just read from the pamphlet of Dr. Alison a statement that the father was put in prison for the offences of the daughter?—Yes.

3637. Is that a common practice in Scotland?—The father is held responsible if his children are found begging in the streets, and I think that he is, in the general case, justly held responsible.

3638. Mr. *Dunlop.*] On what law?—Against street-begging.

3639. Can you refer me to the Act of Parliament authorising the taking up of the father?—Edinburgh Police Act, 11 & 12 Vict. c, 113, s. 156: "And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the superintendent of police and other officers to apprehend and bring before the judge all young persons found begging or sent out for that purpose, within the limits of this Act, and also the parents or other relations of such young persons or other parties by whom they have been so sent or suffered to go out, and on the complaint being established that such young persons have been sent out or suffered to go out for that purpose by their parents, or either of them, or by any other relation, or any other person to whose control they are subject, it shall be lawful for the judge to punish such parents or relations or persons as vagrants or disorderly persons by imprisonment, for a period not exceeding 60 days."

3640. *Chairman.*] Is it some local Act which you have at Edinburgh?—The Local Police Act, I think.

3641. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Perhaps you have the extract with you?—I do not know that I have it here.

3642. You also named, in addition to the father being committed on account of the daughter's begging, I think, that the mother was likewise committed because the daughter was found begging?—Yes.

3643. Are you aware of that being the fact, that the mother was likewise in gaol on account of her child being found begging?—I do not know that fact; if it is stated here it must be true, because we took particular trouble at the time to ascertain the fact.

3644. Then do you understand it to be the custom in Edinburgh for the magistrates to commit parents to gaol if their children are found begging?—Yes, I certainly understand it to be so. I cannot be mistaken in this case.

3645. Do you understand that that is the case throughout Scotland generally?—I do not understand whether it is the case or not.

3646. Then do you presume that it is a local or a general law?—I think that it must be a local Act, but I am not quite certain; it is my impression that it is a local Act; but I may mention that I got an extract from the police books, and have it with me somewhere in town, in which the offence is distinctly stated, "sent to prison for" so many days "for his children being detected in begging; first offence."

3647. *Chairman.*] Surely, in order to constitute an offence, it must have been shown that the parent had sent them out for that purpose, or was in some way privy or accessary to the act of the children; do not you suppose so?—I cannot say as to that.

3648. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] You are a writer to the signet?—Yes.

3649. Being a writer to the signet, you are more or less acquainted with the law?—I ought to know a little about it.

3650. Did it not occur to you when an act of such injustice as that took place, you being a member of a society to protect these people, to examine the law, and to see whether the parties could not be punished for such a gross oppression?—I must confess that I have a very strong feeling myself that a parent who makes himself a party to his children's delinquency, in that respect deserves punishment rather than the children.

F. Gordon, Esq.

9 June 1854.

3651. *Chairman.*] But you are assuming that that is the fact?—I have no doubt that it must have been assumed that he was to some extent a party.

3652. Mr. *Maguire.*] But you are distinct as to your remembrance of the extract in the police books?—Yes; because I had it in my hand within this day or two, since I came to town.

3653. And your impression is, that by the police law regulating Edinburgh, the parents are held responsible for the acts of the children in begging?—It may very possibly be that there may have been, in the eyes of the magistrates, some reasonable ground to presume that he was concerned in it.

3654. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Did you take any steps to punish these people for that oppression?—I do not know that there were any taken. I may observe, that our object was, and has been all along, not to impute blame to individuals, but rather to illustrate the hardships of the law itself. My impression had been that the officials were open to blame in these cases; but I have seen grounds very greatly to modify, if not altogether to depart from that opinion. I think the abuses are in the system.

3655. Then, although in your inquiries you found a case of gross oppression, you did not deem it fit to take such steps in law as to punish the parties for committing such a gross oppression?—I do not know in this instance against whom you could have proceeded, unless it had been the medical man who granted the certificate upon which the order of removal was issued; and it is very doubtful how far, indeed, you could have brought home any legal offence to him; he might have acted according to the best of his judgment, and still he might have been mistaken. Professor Alison, on the occurrence of this case, took occasion to bring it under the notice of Dr. Smith, the principal medical man in connexion with the Edinburgh City Workhouse, as a ground for laying down the rule, that for the future, when any of the medical gentlemen employed under him should be called upon to report upon any case of that sort, he should be obliged to refer to the infirmary books.

3656. Did I understand you correctly, as stating that you belonged to a society in Edinburgh specially to inquire into these cases, and specially to protect them?—No, the object of our committee was not so much specially to inquire and to protect cases as to adduce cases in illustration of the hardships of the law.

3657. Then you took no pains to ascertain whether the parties were oppressed according to law, or oppressed contrary to law?—Our object was, I may say, to show that the law itself was oppressive; that was the leading idea.

3658. *Chairman.*] I suppose, from this pamphlet, your object was to suggest amendments in the Scottish poor law?—Yes.

3659. Mr. *Maguire.*] And in the recital of this case, you do not charge any parties with illegality?—No; I think there might have been a greater amount of caution.

3660. One of your objects is to show that there is a great hardship in removing a man who has been giving the benefit of his labour to a country for 25 years?—That is the main object.

3661. The other object is to show that these certificates are given with due care, and that they are not a sufficient protection to the poor persons?—I think the facts show that.

3662. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Has there been any rule laid down in consequence of that case?—Yes; I understood from Professor Alison that Dr. Smith had said, that hereafter he would suggest, at all events, if not require, that in any case where it was known that the party had been in the infirmary previous to any order of removal, the books of the infirmary should be examined, in order to ascertain how far the disease was still upon him. Perhaps I may add, that I think it quite possible that the mere fact of the removal of the man to Belfast might not of itself have been sufficient to cause a serious aggravation of the symptoms; but there were other circumstances in the case; in almost all such cases the hardships are suffered in endeavouring to return.

3663. Mr. *Maguire.*] It is stated here that "he had the disease on him at the time, and, by his own account, was so feeble and breathless that he was obliged to stop twice before reaching the head of his close;" that was before his removal, was not it?—Yes, so he stated to me.

3664. Do you think that Devine was in such a state of body as would entitle any medical man to give a certificate saying that he could be removed without danger?—He might have appeared so.

3665. At any rate the fact is, that the *post-mortem* examination proved the statement

statement of the physicians, who had examined him on the 27th, that he had disease of the heart, and also disease of the lungs?—Yes.

3666. Colonel *Blair*.] Are you aware whether he got any assistance in Belfast from any party whatever to come back to Scotland?—I think it is stated so.

3667. I understand you to state that the assistance came from friends in Glasgow and Edinburgh?—Yes, I see it is so.

3668. Were those relations of his own, do you understand; in the case of a man in his position, how came the people in Edinburgh and Glasgow to subscribe in order to bring him back to Scotland?—He was a man very well known to several persons as a highly respectable man; he had been a long time there.

3669. You cannot state whether they were his own relations or not who sent him this money?—I know that he received some assistance from a person who was not a relation of his own.

3670. Mr. *Maguire*.] Was Devine a man of good character?—Yes, of very excellent character.

3671. Was he a man on whose statement you could rely?—Yes, I should certainly rely upon his statements.

3672. Have you the case of Andrew Green?—Yes.

3673. *Chairman*.] Where is it to be found?—It is not in the published report.

3674. Is it a case which you have investigated yourself?—It is, to a certain extent; I have no doubt it will appear in the records of the parish; I have seen the man myself.

3675. What information have you about it; whence do you derive your information?—This is the man's own statement.

3676. Given to you?—Given to me, and, to a certain extent, corroborated by others.

3677. Mr. *Maguire*.] Will you proceed with that case?—It simply illustrates the difficulty which there is sometimes in parties in the circumstances of this man acquiring a settlement at all. He states, "that he is 36 years of age; that he was born in the county of Roscommon; was married in Edinburgh to Catherine Cunningham, who was born in Edinburgh, by whom he has four children, viz., Elizabeth, 10 years old, born in Scott's Close, Cowgate, Edinburgh; Andrew, five years, born in Blackfriar's-wynd, Cowgate, Edinburgh; Catherine, three years, born in College-wynd, Cowgate Edinburgh; and Michael, one year, born in Aberdeen. That he worked as a labourer; that he left Ireland when he was eight years old, and went to reside with an uncle in Liverpool; was 12 months there; he then went to Manchester, where he remained for six or seven years, first working in a factory, and afterwards in a brickfield. He then worked in the Great Northern, Leeds and Manchester, Bolton and Manchester, Liverpool and Manchester, and the Hartlepool and Stockton Railways; after that he worked at the Middlesborough and Hartlepool Docks; was afterwards employed in making a tunnel upon a railroad in Durham, from whence he came to Edinburgh, and worked on the Edinburgh and Glasgow, the Granton, and the North British Railways; after that, he worked for builders (attending masons) for 18 months, when he got employment as a scavenger in Edinburgh, where he worked for other 12 months; he then resumed his former employment, (*i. e.*) working on railways, and went to work upon the Hawick line of rail, where he continued for 18 months; he then proceeded to Aberdeen, and worked on the Aberdeen and Montrose Railway; upon its completion he obtained employment at the chemical works in Aberdeen, where he worked for about 14 months, which time expired in May 1852; he then commenced to sell goods through the country; was taken ill, and parted with his stock to support his wife and family; he then applied to the poorhouse in Aberdeen." The authorities in Aberdeen seemed to suppose that he had a claim on Edinburgh, and sent him on there; and then he was found to have no claim there at all, and was sent to Ireland.

3678. *Chairman*.] When was he sent to Ireland?—25 September 1852.

3679. By what parish was he sent to Ireland?—By the city parish of Edinburgh.

3680. Mr. *Maguire*.] Had this man applied for parochial relief until he was taken ill?—No; he could not do it; he had no claim in Scotland, being an able-bodied person. It could only be in consequence of illness that he could have a claim to relief at all. The object of this case is simply to show that sometimes a man may give the benefit of his labour to a country for many years, and yet fail in acquiring a right to parochial relief.

3681. That man had supported himself continuously wherever he was until the time when he was taken ill in Scotland?—Yes.

3682. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] In fact, all his labour had been bestowed rather in England or Scotland, although he had been born in Ireland?—Precisely.

3683. And the hardship which you wish to illustrate is, that a man, having spent all his labour in England and Scotland, should in consequence of illness be transferred to Ireland, and imposed as a burden upon that country?—Yes.

3684. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Had he been a Scotchman, the same would have been followed, would it not?—Except in this respect, that he probably would not have been sent away. He would have been relieved in Aberdeen, and allowed to continue there, and the sums paid to him would have been charged against the settlement wherever it might have been; the difference being this, that in Scotland every native Scotch person has a settlement of some sort either by birth or otherwise, and there would be the means of recovering.

3685. Mr. *Maguire.*] If Green had been a Scotchman, had been taken ill, had applied for parochial relief, and had been relieved, do you not think that in a short time that man would have been in such a position that he could have resumed his work, and have supported himself by his industry; is not that the probability?—I have no reason to doubt it.

3686. Then would not the case of the Scotchman, and the case of the Irishman, be very different, inasmuch as the Scotchman would not be removed from the district, but be temporarily relieved, whereas the Irishman was sent from Scotland into a country with which he had positively ceased to have connexion?—Yes, and the Committee will be pleased to observe, that this man having been sent with his family to Belfast, and having determined to come back, incurred considerable expense in making his way back to Edinburgh. A clerk of mine at the time took a note of the sums which he had got by pawning his articles of clothing; a mantle in Glasgow 3*s.*; a gown, 1*s.* 9*d.*; a coat, 6*s.* 1*d.*; a vest, 3*s.*; a child's frock, 1*s.* 3*d.*; a shawl, 2*s.* 9*d.*; making 17*s.* 10*d.*; a child's frock again in Belfast, 1*s.* 6*d.*, and his own coat, 5*s.* 7*d.*; making in all 1*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*

3687. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] All that would have been saved to a Scotchman under similar circumstances?—Yes, necessarily.

3688. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You say that a Scotchman would not be removed in similar circumstances to those, but that the parish relieving him has only to send to the parish of his birth to get the expenses repaid?—Quite so.

3689. Taking an Irish pauper, the Scotch parish cannot get repaid from the parish of an Irishman's birth, and therefore, they remove him?—Yes, that is the only means by which Scotch parishes can relieve themselves.

3690. Mr. *Maguire.*] But at any rate the law does not affect the Scotchman so harshly as it does the Irishman?—It can scarcely be said to affect the Scotchman practically.

3691. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] That is owing, I suppose, to an imperfection in the Irish law?—I cannot say as to that. That is stated, and a remedy proposed, in the memorial of Dr. Alison, p. 9.

3692. Mr. *Maguire.*] You do not know anything about the Irish law?—I know that there is no provision by which sums paid to an Irish pauper in Scotland not having acquired a settlement, or having lost his settlement, can be recovered.

3693. But do you know, that whenever a poor person becomes destitute, that poor person has a right to relief in Ireland?—I have been so given to understand.

3694. Do you also know that in case a stranger becomes a burden to a union in Ireland, that union has no power of removing that person?—I have so understood, although I believe there is a good deal of misconception on that subject in Scotland.

3695. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Have you any doubt that a person having a settlement in Scotland, and going to Ireland and becoming a pauper, and being relieved in Ireland, the Union in Ireland supporting that Scotch pauper might bring an action against the parish of settlement in Scotland, compelling them to take him back, and to repay the money laid out upon him?—I have very serious doubts; I do not know any case where it has occurred.

3696. Has any such demand ever been made?—I am not aware.

3697. On what ground do you suppose that there is any doubt; that a different law would be administered to a union in Ireland from what is administered to any individual or any parish in Scotland supporting a pauper not belonging thereto?—It is merely that I am not the least aware of the fact, and I never knew of such a case having occurred; and the Irish law, recognizing no settlements in Ireland, probably will not recognize it in Scotland.

3698. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] You are aware that the law gives power to recover?—

recover?—I am aware that the law gives power to recover, as between one Scotch parish and another.

3699. Sir *J. Young.*] Supposing the law gives the power to recover, can it be set in motion without costs, or a liability to costs, on the part of the party complaining?—Certainly not; they must make up their minds to engage in the litigation. Questions of settlement as between parish and parish in Scotland are a very fertile source of litigation; in fact, the consideration arising from that has been one circumstance, which has almost forced, I may say, upon several persons who have watched the operation of the law, the question, how far it may not be expedient to repeal the law of settlement, with the view of getting rid of all those questions.

3700. Supposing the Irish Boards of Guardians had no power of levying a rate for the purpose of instituting those law proceedings, would not the remedy, though it might exist in the Scottish law, be ineffective as regards Ireland?—Necessarily so.

3701. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Such actions are competent in the Sheriff's Court; actions against the parish of settlement to compel them to support their own poor persons, and to reimburse others who have advanced money for that purpose?—So I understand, but with a right of appeal to the Court of Session.

3702. *Chairman.*] That is between parish and parish in Scotland?—Yes; I do not know that the Sheriff's Court has jurisdiction in the case supposed, but I think it would have.

3703. Mr. *Maguire.*] You speak of the cost of litigation in Scotland, can you give me any idea of the cost of an ordinary appeal, in a dispute between parish and parish?—It is a matter not very easy to calculate.

3704. Would it be 40 *l.*—I happened to have a case myself the other day, an appeal from the sheriff of Renfrewshire; it was not a case of disputed settlement, but a question as to the right to relief; and, to the best of my recollection, the expenses in the court of session, although it did not go beyond the outer house, were about 30*l.*, and in the country certainly not less than 15*l.* or 20*l.*

3705. If it had been a case between a union in Ireland and a parish in Scotland, what do you think would have been the probable cost?—I think it is quite impossible to give a very precise answer to that question, because it depends a good deal upon the nature of the proof to be adduced. Supposing such a question raised as between an Irish union and a Scotch parish, they must make up their minds to establish, by proof, the fact of a party having a claim upon the particular parish.

3706. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] The case which you speak of, was not a case of settlement?—It was not.

3707. State what the nature of it was?—I merely wished to give a general idea of the expense of an action in the court of session.

3708. Be good enough to state the case?—It was the case of a weaver, I think, in Paisley, who was admitted to be 70 years of age, and to be able to make 3*s.* in a week by working at his trade as a weaver; out of that he had to pay for light and house rent, and various other items, which reduced it to something below 2*s.*; in fact, he applied for parochial aid, and he was refused by the sheriff on the ground that the Board of Supervision were not generally in the habit of allowing more than 2*s.* 6*d.* a week in any case to a poor person, and that he being able to make 3*s.* a week, was not a proper object of parochial relief.

3709. He was not an Irishman?—No, he had no connexion with Ireland whatever.

3710. Mr. *Dunlop.*] How did it come before the court, excepting in *formâ pauperis*?—It came in *formâ pauperis*; it was remitted to me to conduct. The action succeeded in the Court of Session, and the man was found entitled to his expenses from the parish.

3711. Mr. *Maguire.*] If the cost of so simple an action as that brought in the Court of Session, would be 30 *l.* to some persons or other, is it not probable that an action between a union in Ireland and a parish in Scotland, might cost 100*l.*?—I can conceive it quite possible that it would cost that, but I have not had time to look into the statistics.

3712. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Would an Irish action cost any more than a Scotch action, provided the expense of witnesses were the same?—I cannot conceive that it would; it is only necessary to employ an agent to conduct it, I presume.

3713. It is only the additional expense of Irish witnesses which you contemplate as the additional expense of an Irish case, as against a Scotch union or parish?—

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parish?—I do not know any reason why the expense of a case at the instance of an Irish parish or an Irish union, against a Scotch parish, should be greater than of an ordinary action in the Court of Session; they must just make up their minds to establish the fact of settlement in the way that a Scotch parish has to do it.

3714. Mr. *Maguire.*] That point is established by witnesses, and those witnesses might be brought from Ireland?—I do not see any necessity to bring witnesses from Ireland in every case, because the proof would be in Scotland; the object of the action being to show that a man had acquired a settlement in Scotland. I cannot suppose that there would be any occasion to summon witnesses from Ireland to establish that fact, because if the man resided in Scotland, of course the witnesses to the fact would be in Scotland.

3715. Have you the case of James Hall?—Yes; that is No. 2, in Appendix A. to the memorial.

3716. *Chairman.*] Did you examine into the circumstances of this case yourself?—I did not.

3717. From whom do you derive your knowledge of this case?—From a person who is perfectly well known to me, and who puts his name to the report of the case.

3718. Who is Mr. Forrestal who signs this case?—He is at present the manager of a large clothing establishment in Edinburgh, who devotes himself a good deal to this subject.

3719. What means he took of investigating this case you do not know, I suppose?—I know him perfectly, and he told me that he had been very strict indeed in making inquiries into the case.

3720. You have it upon the information of Mr. Forrestal?—Yes.

3721. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is he a respectable person?—Highly respectable.

3722. Intelligent?—Yes.

3723. Is he likely to be deceived, or is he a person who would use all due precaution in inquiring into the case?—I have reason to believe that in reporting these cases to which his name is appended he was particularly on his guard, because he naturally apprehended some risk to himself from bringing those facts before the public, if he stated anything to which the officials at the workhouse could take exception.

3724. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Do you know what countryman he is?—He is an Irishman himself. "James Hall, a native of Ireland, came to Scotland with his wife and one or two children about the year 1818, settled in North Leith parish for four years, Edinburgh one year, returned to Portobello, and resided there 14 years, then to East Linton for two years; again to Grassmarket, Edinburgh, for five years and two months, where his wife died in June 1848. He thought he surely had acquired a parish claim in Edinburgh, and being already 70 years of age, he sought parish relief for himself and one child, a little girl born in Edinburgh; but on leaving the infirmary and the convalescent-house, where he had been with fever, he and the child were sent to Ireland. From Ireland he was sent back to Scotland, as the Poor-law authorities insisted that he had acquired a settlement in Scotland, where he had reared by his industry a family of 12 children, 10 of whom were born in Scotland. On his return to Edinburgh he applied as directed to the City Charity Workhouse, and was taken before the Sheriff Court, where he was sentenced to 30 days' imprisonment. On being liberated at the end of that time, his little child was sent to him; but he claimed aid again, and was a second time sent to the Calton Gaol (I think 30 days), and again was sent there for a third time; I think 60 days was the term of imprisonment on this occasion. The weather was at the time severe, and he was kept in a low cell without fire, and expressed himself, on leaving the prison on that occasion, as certain as they (meaning the Poor-law officials) had finished him; being very ill, he went to the infirmary; after lingering for two or three months, he died there." "This man was 30 years resident in Scotland, and after having established his claim to several parishes, and always supporting himself by some industrial occupation (say brickmaker or labourer), he lost his life from the effects of the imprisonment which he suffered on the three occasions referred to."

3725. *Chairman.*] Did Mr. Forrestal give you any of the dates connected with this matter?—It must have been about 1848.

3726. Mr. *Dunlop.*] He was in the Grass-market until June 1848; when did he first apply for relief?—I cannot state that.

3727. *Chairman.*] Can you give us the date?—Not here; but I could procure it.

3728. Mr.

3728. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Could you show the dates of the imprisonments?—It would be easy to show the imprisonments.

3729. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] And the reason why he was imprisoned?—Yes; it was quite legal.

3730. *Chairman.*] Can you furnish to the Committee the dates of these removals, and the name of the parish by which he was removed?—I have no doubt I can obtain them; I may state, however, that the cases are not brought forward with the view of imputing blame, but simply to illustrate the law; I am not aware that there was any illegality in the removal here. [Date of removal, 23 June 1848, by Edinburgh City parish; first imprisonment, 24 October 1848, for five days; second, 4 November, for 30 days; and third, 9 December, for 59 days.]

3731. Mr. *Maguire.*] You wish to show the hardship of a man, who has devoted the entire of his life to labour in Scotland, being removed when he is disabled either by physical infirmity or by accident?—That is what the case seems to show.

3732. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Prior to the late Act if a man had lived three years in any one parish a settlement would have been acquired, and the former would not have been forfeited except by the acquisition of a new settlement?—Yes.

3733. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the case of John Murphy?—Yes; that is No. 1 of the Appendix to the Memorial. I should state that, soon after the publication of this memorial, a communication was received from Mr. Joseph Wood, one of the officials of the city parochial board, complaining of certain statements in the cases annexed to the memorial; this communication was laid before the committee on the 6th March 1852, and an answer returned on behalf of the committee; and this case of Murphy was one of the cases to the statement of which in the Appendix exception was taken by the officials. The Committee will learn the nature of the case from the statement in the answer to Mr. Wood's letter.

3734. *Chairman.*] From what information was this derived?—The same party.

3735. Mr. Forrestal?—Yes.

3736. You did not investigate this case yourself, personally?—No; we had the case brought before us in that form again.

3737. Did you ever scrutinise the facts personally, or do you take them from Mr. Forrestal?—I took the case from him originally.

3738. Mr. *Maguire.*] Will you state the case?—"John Murphy, born in Ireland, was brought to Scotland when about four years old; when a young man he married Ann Johnston, a native of Edinburgh, and from the period of their marriage until the time of his going to Dumfries his family always resided in the Castle-wynd, Grass Market, Edinburgh, a period of 16 years; had nine children, of whom only four are living, all born there; the youngest is now only six months old, and was born since her father's death; the other children are respectively eleven, four, and two years of age. He had been a licensed hawker for some years, but, for the last 10 years, he seldom left Edinburgh, and during that period he used to make creels and baskets for Mr. Anderson, the fishmonger in George-street. About five years before he died he was attacked with rheumatic pains, and went into the infirmary in Dumfries; he and his wife with their three children undertook to walk that distance; they had 2*l.* on leaving Edinburgh, and as he was nearly unable to walk they advanced only three or four miles daily, until they came to the parish of Carmichael, when he had to give up, and the doctor of the parish being sent for, he said the man had lost the power of his side. He was sent to the infirmary in Dumfries, and soon returned to Edinburgh, and claimed support from the charity workhouse, which was given for some time; but while he was still unable to do anything to assist himself and family the aliment was withheld from them, his wife was then obliged to beg for her children, and being taken to the police-office for doing so, the bailie sent her and children to the charity workhouse, also the husband; about an hour after their admission, they were sent by the railway to the station beyond Moffat, with a letter to Mr. Hislop, the inspector of the poor of the parish of Carmichael, which was a distance of 11 miles from the place they had left the train; it was 11 o'clock at night when they reached Mr. Hislop's house, and it was on a Saturday night. Mr. Hislop got them lodgings, &c., and said, that on Monday he would take them to Dumfries, and have them sent to Ireland. When Murphy heard this

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this he was so alarmed, that he immediately commenced his journey back to Edinburgh, and walked all the night, though he was very ill. He took to his bed on getting home, and never rose for seven weeks. He returned without telling his wife where he was going, and she, being in great anxiety for him, stole away, and also returned to their home. She had three children with her, and was frequently without a penny in her possession; she had to get on as well as she could this journey of 80 miles. After this, Murphy continued very unwell for some months, and was very destitute. The parish doctor was sent for, and said he had lost the use of one side, and got relief for a few weeks (five or six); his wife and boy were making creels to assist him during this illness. Mr. Hislop, the poor-law inspector from Carmichael, came with some police officers to Murphy's house about five o'clock one morning, and took the family in a cab to the Caledonian Railway, without giving the mother time to dress the children fully. As they were late for the train, the whole party returned to the charity workhouse, and left again at 11 o'clock for the railway, in the custody of Mr. Hislop and the police, but without having any warrant for their removal. Having got as far as Lockerbie, the train stopped, and Mr. Hislop left, went to a magistrate or magistrates, and got a warrant for the removal of the whole family; but they were not brought before the magistrates and police, as the wife can prove that they were never out of the train while the warrant was being got. They then proceeded to Carlisle, and were then handed to the English Poor-law officers, where they were kindly treated, and were sent from that place to Whitehaven, and from thence to Belfast. The man was nearly worn out, and had to be supported by leaning on his wife's shoulder and his little boy's. The family was again sent back to Glasgow after a delay of one day; here the wife sold some little article of clothing to get the husband conveyed by the canal-boat some distance on the way to Edinburgh; and again at Falkirk the man, being unable to walk, she sold some other necessary clothing (her shawl) to have him carried into Edinburgh. On reaching Edinburgh, they were in great destitution, and he exceedingly ill. The effects of this treatment were, that Murphy lost his senses. He was then sent to Morningside Asylum, where he died after a few months' confinement." Then the report of that case, as I have stated, was taken exception to, amongst others, by Mr. Joseph Wood, cashier and book-keeper of the City Parochial Board, whose communication was transmitted to the committee, and the answer of the committee was agreed to at a meeting held on the 6th of March 1852, at which the Rev. Doctor Guthrie was in the chair, and Professor Alison was also present; and this answer, perhaps, may so far corroborate the statements in the report of the case.

3739. *Chairman.*] Where are you about to read from?—Page 19; postscript to the memorial it is called.

3740. You say there was a further inquiry about it; was that made by Mr. Forrestal also?—No. The leading features of the case were not disputed. This is the committee's answer: "Again, in the case of John Murphy, No. 1 in the Appendix, it is not denied that this man, after having lived 16 years, and had nine children, in Edinburgh, was fastened on Kirkmichael parish, because, being ill and on his way to Dumfries Infirmary, he first applied for medical relief there, although not 24 hours resident there; that the officials of Kirkmichael seized the whole family one morning, and summarily removed them from Edinburgh to Carlisle, from whence they were removed first to Whitehaven, and then to Belfast; that the authorities at Belfast sent them back to Glasgow, from whence they made their way back to Edinburgh, where they arrived quite destitute, and he very ill; that he soon after went mad, and died in the asylum at Morningside; and that his widow and children have, since this return from Belfast, received relief from Kirkmichael, implying that they have a legal claim there." These are the essential points of this case, which is adduced as an example of the hardships inflicted on feeble and disabled poor by the present system of removal to Ireland; and it is obvious that none of these are touched by the farther statement which the Committee have received from Mr. Wood, that five months elapsed between the return of Murphy from Belfast and his admission to Morningside Asylum, where he died; and that the Parochial Board of Edinburgh 'sympathised with the family thus bandied about,' and have advanced to them, on behalf of Kirkmichael, an unusually large allowance since his death."

3741. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Was that case ever brought before the Board of Supervision?—No.

3742. Do you understand that children born in Scotland can ever be removed under any circumstances?—I understand distinctly that children can be sent along with parents to Ireland.

3743. If they have no settlement in Scotland; but has not every person born in Scotland a settlement in Scotland?—Not during the father's lifetime; I speak under correction.

3744. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know of your own knowledge that children born in Scotland are sent to Ireland?—Yes; for instance, Devine's family, with himself, were sent to Ireland.

3745. Mr. *Dunlop.*] A man may be sent to Ireland with any child who has not acquired a settlement in Scotland?—That is the provision of the statute.

3745.* By the law of Scotland, is not every child born in Scotland vested by the very fact of birth with a settlement in Scotland?—My understanding is certainly somewhat different; that while the children are in minority, in pupillarity at all events, and the father alive, the children have not a right of settlement, to the effect of preventing their being sent to Ireland.

3746. That question has never been raised?—It strikes me that there is an express authority upon the point; I am not prepared to give it just now, but I think it is the fact; I think there are cases in the books.

3747. Am I to understand that these parties were taken as far as Lockerbie from Edinburgh, without ever having been brought before the magistrate?—That seems to be admitted; it is not denied in the answer which we received from Mr. Wood.

3748. *Chairman.*] Have you a copy of the answer?—I have not; but the whole of these gentlemen are so far a guarantee, I think, to the terms of the answer being correctly given in the pamphlet.

3749. When you are stating the effect of the answer which you had from Mr. Wood, cannot you give the Committee either that answer in words, or the substance of it at all events?—I applied to Dr. Alison for some of the documents which were left with him, and I was not able to get them.

3750. Mr. *Maguire.*] Does he say that they are in existence?—He does not state that they are not in existence, but he was not able to lay his hands upon them at the moment.

3751. Colonel *Blair.*] Were these statements which you have read, all taken before the committee which you mentioned at the beginning of your evidence?—Yes.

3752. *Chairman.*] I think hardly so; according to your former statement, they were taken by individuals, and then reported to that committee?—Yes.

3753. Colonel *Blair.*] They are not the statements of the actual paupers themselves, but there were other witnesses examined to prove those statements, I suppose, or are they only the statements of these people themselves who were removed?—I understood that the party who reported this case was personally cognizant of the facts stated; that he had taken pains to satisfy himself, and they were generally not disputed.

3754. *Chairman.*] That is Mr. Forrestal?—Yes.

3755. Mr. *Maguire.*] Certain parts of the statement were disputed by Mr. Wood, but the main allegations were not; that was the impression left upon the minds of the Committee who read his letter, and who had to answer it?—Quite so.

3756. *Chairman.*] As a lawyer, you must see that that is a very unsatisfactory way of reporting an admission; have you no more precise way of doing it; could not you get Mr. Wood's letter, or, at all events, give us an account of it in some way or other; at present you only say that you understand that Mr. Wood's letter did not deny so-and so?—I do not make this statement on my own authority simply, but on that of all the members of the committee, who considered this letter, and who then agreed to send this answer. This answer is not my answer, nor the answer of any individual, but it is the answer of all the members of the committee, to which the Rev. Dr. Guthrie's name is appended as chairman. [*Vide* letter from Mr. Joseph Wood, dated 2 August 1854, p. 297.]

3757. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Either that letter would be in the committee's depository, or a copy of it recorded in the books of the parochial board of Edinburgh, would it not?—Yes.

3758. *Chairman.*] Does this passage appear in the postscript: "Professor Alison submitted two letters, received from Mr. Joseph Wood, one of the officials

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of the City Parochial Board, complaining of certain statements in some of the cases annexed to the memorial. The cases referred to were read, and the statements compared with those in Mr. Wood's communication, and it was unanimously resolved "That the following answer should be sent in the name of the Committee, and printed as a postscript to the memorial.'" Then is this the answer: "The committee, who have interested themselves in the question of the amendment of the Poor-law, have received a communication from Mr. Joseph Wood, one of the officials of the Edinburgh Charity Workhouse, complaining of misrepresentations alleged to exist in the report of cases printed in the appendix to their memorial. The committee know well, from experience, that nothing is more difficult than to expiscate the exact truth in cases where persons, of the class here concerned, particularly poor Irish wanderers, have quarrelled among themselves, or think themselves wronged by others, and they, therefore, admit that, notwithstanding the pains they have taken on the subject, the authors of the memorial may have been deceived as to certain of the details of these cases. But it will be observed, that there is hardly a single allegation, in any one of these cases, of the officials at the poor-house having exceeded their powers, or done anything more than what they may naturally have thought their duty, in carrying into effect the existing law. The hardships entailed on poor people in carrying out the law, as Mr. Wood truly states, cannot be laid to the charge of these officials; indeed it was the object of this memorial to show that such evils must be put, as he justly observes, 'to the credit of the law itself'" ?—Yes.

3759. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] This case of Murphy's appears to be a very hard and unjust measure towards him; and when he was sent to Ireland, they do not seem to have taken his case into any greater consideration than the Scotch authorities in Edinburgh, because they packed him off back directly in the state of ill-health in which he was.

3760. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is there anything said in that statement as to the Irish authorities, or any authorities in Ireland, having packed him off?—We only know it from the man's own statement: "the family was again sent back to Glasgow from Belfast:" it does not state by whom.

3761. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Of course, being in a state of destitution, they might have got assistance of some kind to get back?—Yes.

3762. Sir *J. Young.*] Do you think it improbable that parties in Belfast, thinking the case a hard one, might subscribe, although they were not connected with the authorities?—I believe that such things have occurred; there is one case in particular where I know of such a thing having happened.

3763. Then the fact of the parties being so sent back, would be rather a proof that the society in Ireland thought itself aggrieved by these removals than otherwise?—It might be accounted for in that way, or it might be just from a feeling of sympathy for the man whom they might be willing to aid to return to what he considered his home.

3764. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] The whole of this statement is upon the man's own account, as far as it regards Scotland, and as far it regards Ireland?—I do not think it is entirely upon his own account; it cannot be from his own account entirely, as he went to Morningside; there is a statement that he went to Morningside, where he died.

3765. *Chairman.*] I observe that you do not give any date for this case of Murphy's; can you give the Committee the date when this removal took place?—I shall be happy to furnish the whole of the particulars; it is not a case which I reported myself.

3766. Will you give us the date and the parish removing in each case?—Yes.

3767. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the case of Stapleton, a child?—Yes, that is No. 7 in the Appendix, page 33. I may state that I took the statement of this case myself.

3768. *Chairman.*] This you investigated yourself?—Yes, and not only so, but I thought the facts so serious, that I took the precaution, before submitting it to our committee, or at all events before publishing it, to send the statement in draft to the inspector of the city poorhouse, that he might correct anything which was not accurate in the statement; and the statement as now to be read is therefore the statement as revised by Mr. Hay, the inspector of the city parish. I made the man send me a written statement at first: "Edinburgh, 17 November 1850. Sir,—In compliance with your request, I will endeavour to show you, as brief and concise as possible, a full and true statement concerning the young man of

of whom I have made mention to-day. Thomas Stapleton, my son, was brought from the Cowgate in June 1847, to the infirmary, and then removed to the Charity Workhouse, and remained there until the 3d of September following; at which time, the authorities tell me, they sent him to Belfast Union, who has written to me that he has never been sent there. Moreover, I can produce witnesses that Mr. Ferguson (one of the inspectors), took the boy into the house. I am, sir, your most obedient servant. (signed) *Thomas Stapleton.*" Then this is the statement: "Thomas Stapleton, residing with Edward M'Kearnon, Middle Meal Market, Stair, born in county Leitrim, was living there in 1846, the year of the famine. Had a child by Catherine Camboyd, who went to Australia when he was young, leaving him in charge of declarant and his mother. Mother died before the famine. Boy came to this country in the famine year (1846), with declarant's sister, Catherine, who was married in Ireland to Patrick Healy, cabinet-maker, Cowgate, Edinburgh. Declarant came to this country in spring of 1847. Sister died in the infirmary of fever and childbirth, in June 1847. Boy was in infirmary at same time, and declarant's present wife (Mary Healy, who was then single, and living with her father) took him to the workhouse to obtain relief. Declarant by this time (September) had gone to England. Workhouse people refused aid in money, but took the child into the house. Declarant came to Edinburgh about Christmas; went to workhouse to inquire for child; was told that he had been sent to Ireland, but they could give no farther account of him; declarant then wrote to his brother to inquire about boy. Brother wrote to authorities at Belfast, and their answer, which was forwarded to the declarant, was, that no such infant had come under notice. Declarant showed letter to Mr. Hay, at poorhouse, who said he could not understand it, adding that he could not find the warrant. Declarant's brother has since made inquiry about the boy; and declarant himself has likewise done so, whenever he thought there was a chance of hearing of him. Latterly, the poorhouse officials told him that the boy would be landed at the Belfast quay, and would then have to go where he liked. All which is truth."

3769. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] And has he never been found?—He has never been heard of.

3770. *Chairman.*] You say that you showed that statement to Mr. Hay?—Yes.

3771. What did he say about it?—He returned it to me in that form; it is now published in the form in which it was revised by Mr. Hay, of the city parish.

3772. Without any other observation than just returning it?—It is not exactly in the state in which I sent it to him; he drew his pen through one or two parts of it.

3773. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is that a correct statement?—Yes, under the circumstances stated, there can, I think, be no reason to doubt it.

3774. Is there no account of the boy; do the Belfast authorities deny any knowledge of him?—Yes.

3775. And up to this time has there been any information respecting him?—No information.

3776. *Chairman.*] With what view do you mention this case?—It is to show generally one of the consequences of the present state of things, and the defect in the arrangements as between the two Boards, there being no communication, as it were, between them, and no provision for the reception of such cases; there was not at that time at least.

3777. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the case of Alice Quinn?—Yes.

3778. That is a recent case, I think?—It is a case which is furnished by Dr. Alison.

3779. It is not a printed one?—It is not; it happened on the 4th of June 1854.

3780. *Chairman.*] What means of knowledge have you respecting it?—It is Dr. Alison's own note: "Alice Quin, 13 years in Scotland; all her children born here; five years a widow; has lost one child, besides two still-born; one son in the infirmary with diseased hip joint; visited by Miss Hill and by myself; three daughters at home; eldest eight or nine; had an allowance from the parish several years after her husband's death; eight months ago was summoned to come into the poorhouse with her family. Mr. Ferguson, inspector, since dead, said it was fair to tell her the intention was to send her and her children to Ireland. Fearing this she declined going to the house, and her pension was cut off; her sister also, a widow, with one child, in bad health, has lived with her since; and they have

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struggled on without any aid except from individuals, and the destitute sick society and infirmary. Her character is fair, and although their room and furniture are miserably destitute, the children go to a night school, and have little bands of flowers round their heads to-day, as being Sunday." That case happened just to come under notice.

3781. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the case of William M'Intyre?—Yes.

3782. *Chairman.*] Is that to be found in either of the pamphlets?—No. The particulars of this case were only reported to me just upon my coming away for London. I was given to understand that my examination would not take place previously to Thursday next; and when I received an intimation that I was to be examined to-day, having to make arrangements at rather short notice, it was not in my power to go myself to investigate the case.

3783. You have had no means of verifying it yourself?—No; but I sent a person, who knew the particulars, to the spot to see the party, and to take down the particulars from his own lips.

3784. Who was the person?—A friend of mine. It is the case of William M'Intyre, who resided in Dalkeith; he came to Scotland in 1848 with his father, a man aged 80; he was settled at Dalkeith, where he and his father worked as tailors. In 1850 the son, this man, fell into bad health, a sort of decline; he continued at work, however, and on its getting scarce in Dalkeith, he went into Edinburgh and got employment there, from whence he was in the habit of remitting sums to support his father, his sister, a widow, and three children, and a brother aged 13. He got much worse, and was taken to the infirmary; after getting better he returned into lodgings, where it was understood that he received parochial aid. The father received a letter from the son, expressing fear that he was to be sent off; on receipt of this letter the old man was very much alarmed at the idea, and came into Edinburgh, but too late to see his son, who had been sent away a day or two before. He learned afterwards that his son had reached Belfast, and had expressed a determination to return, but he has never since made his appearance, nor have all the inquiries been able to elicit what has become of him. I have been told, on the authority of a person conversant with all the facts, that they are quite well known; the family are well known in Dalkeith, and these facts are well known.

3785. Have you the date of the removal?—I have not.

3786. Perhaps you will give us that, and also the parish?—I will; I understand it is the city parish.

3787. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] These paupers seem all to have a dread of being sent back to Ireland; how is that?—I suppose it may be accounted for from different causes; partly from an apprehension of the hardship which they are exposed to, either in going there or in returning back from Ireland. In a case of this sort it seems only natural, and becomes all but a necessary consequence; as in this instance a man has been the main support of the family; they depended upon him, and of course he was naturally anxious to rejoin his family; he was settled in Dalkeith, and had been working there; all the members of his family had been in Scotland.

3788. Colonel *Blair.*] Is it your opinion that they are worse off in the manner in which they are sent over, when they are removed from Scotland, than they are when they come over voluntarily; you are aware that a large number of Irish poor come over to Glasgow and other ports on the coast of Scotland; do you think that they go back again, when they are removed, under less favourable circumstances; you mentioned the hardships which they suffer on going back?—Yes.

3789. Do not you think that they suffer those same hardships when they come over first of all?—I should think not, because they must be supposed to have made some arrangement which would admit of their coming over with a certain degree of comfort; whereas in these cases they are supposed to be landed at Belfast or at any other place perfectly destitute, and it is very often only by parting with some of their necessary articles of clothing that they succeed in making their way back.

3790. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] I think you stated that this man was 80 years of age when he came over with his son?—Yes; he is now 85; I have said upwards of 80; he was about 80, but he was not sent back.

3791. Then the best of that man's days must have been passed in Ireland, where he ought to have a settlement?—I have no doubt he has a settlement in Ireland; if there is a law of settlement in Ireland, he must have a settlement.

3792. Do

3792. Do not you think that it is hard upon Scotland for a man of 80 years of age to come over there and obtain parochial relief, and for them not to have the power of sending him back to where he spent his early days, and where the profit upon his labour, if there be any, was acquired?—Generally. I certainly think that it would be more equitable that the burthen should in a case of that sort be thrown upon Ireland.

3793. You have stated before that Murphy was in Scotland for 20 years, and yet was sent back, having lived 20 years in that country, they deriving all the benefit happening to arise from his industrial labour, and that that appears a hard case; but, at the same time, is it not equally hard for a man 80 years of age to be sent over to Scotland?—I cite the case to illustrate the operation of the law in the separation of families.

3794. Mr. *Dunlop.*] This man came over, his father being 80, and his sister-in-law a widow with some children, and a younger brother or sister all dependent upon him?—The father, I am told, himself worked as a tailor.

3795. He brought these people all dependent upon him; he was the only person at work, and he became a pauper and was sent back to his own country?—Yes.

3796. There may be a hardship upon those depending upon him, at all events; but what is the hardship upon him in sending him back?—I do not cite the case by way of making out a case of hardship as against either Scotland or Ireland; I merely mention it to illustrate the operation of the law, and to show that under its operation such cases of hardship do almost necessarily occur.

3797. All these parties becoming chargeable would immediately have been sent over also after him?—Yes.

3798. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] How were the whole of these cases brought under your notice or under that of the committee?—The whole of the cases were brought under notice in different ways. For instance, any member of the committee, who himself knew of the particulars of a case, would probably state it.

3799. Were the parish books looked into to see how many cases of removal to Ireland had occurred from that parish; did any member of the committee look into the parish books to see how many removals had taken place to Ireland since 1848?—I am not aware of that.

3800. Do you think that these are the whole of the cases?—Certainly not.

3801. Have you any means of ascertaining the whole of the cases?—The returns will show; there are official returns I should think.

3802. Have those official returns been made?—I understand that returns have been made.

3803. Mr. *Maguire.*] You have no knowledge of these matters?—I am not aware.

3804. Colonel *Blair.*] With what object was this committee originally formed?—I thought I had sufficiently explained the object for which it was formed. It is stated in the pamphlet itself, I may say. It was for the purpose of directing public attention to the present state of the law of settlement and removal, and to suggest amendments upon it which might appear likely to remedy the evils.

3805. Are they capable of forming a judgment with regard to the rural parishes in Scotland as well as the large towns; those cases which you have alluded to appear all to have belonged to Edinburgh?—Certainly; our observations have more special reference to the case of towns than of country parishes; but I think there are some gentlemen on the committee whose names afford a sufficient guarantee that they understand the state of the law both in the country and in the towns.

3806. Mr. *Maguire.*] The Honourable Member has asked the reason of the dread which all these paupers have of being sent back to Ireland; is not the dread very natural upon the mind of a pauper, where ties of 18 or 20 years in Scotland are suddenly broken through?—So I consider it.

3807. Is it not a very common thing that Irish people, who have left Ireland for Scotland, have formed ties in Scotland which it is very painful to have broken, and which are broken by removal?—Yes.

3808. Is it a very common thing that persons of 80 years of age leave Ireland for Scotland?—It is not uncommon for an old person to join her son.

3809. Generally, is it not where the son is industriously established in Scotland, and is able to support that aged father or mother by his industry, that the father or the mother comes to Scotland?—I should rather hesitate to express myself very decidedly upon that point; that is a very general case in my belief.

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3810. Do you not consider that Sir John M'Neill is a very competent authority upon it?—I should think so.

3811. And if he stated that old people did come over to Scotland under those circumstances, that they were sent for by their sons, who were in a position to support them for five years, you would give full credence to his statement?—I should have no hesitation whatever in accepting it.

3812. It is probable that an old person of 80 years of age, without any relations in Scotland who were capable of supporting him, would come over to Scotland?—No, I should think not. I do not know any such case.

3813. Then you would suppose that, generally, when they do come over, they calculate on their relatives being in a position to support them?—I should think that that must be a reasonable supposition.

3814. Have you the case of Peter Catto?—Yes.

3815. *Chairman.*] Is that in either of the pamphlets?—No; it occurred very lately; this case is that of an Englishman.

3816. What is your authority for this; from whence do you derive your information?—From a report in the Berwick local newspaper of the proceedings on the inquest.

3817. Have you the newspaper itself here?—I was obliged to return the paper.

3818. It is in fact statatement which you copied from a newspaper?—It is the substance of the facts which I found in the newspaper; the newspapers are still in existence.

3819. Colonel *Blair.*] Is it an actual account of the coroner's inquest?—Yes, which I saw.

3820. Not just a casual report of it?—No, it is a full report of the case.

3821. Mr. *Maguire.*] You take the leading statements in that report, which was given in full in the newspaper?—Yes.

3822. *Chairman.*] Does it give particulars; does it give the times?—Yes.

3823. And the particular parish?—Yes.

3824. Mr. *Stirling.*] And you will be able, I suppose, afterwards to give the name and the date of the newspaper?—I can give the date of the inquest; there is no doubt about it. "Inquest at Berwick-upon-Tweed, Tuesday, 28th March 1854, and subsequent days. Deceased, a licensed hawker, 50 years of age, and belonged to the south of England; taken ill in Edinburgh, and admitted to Royal Infirmary on 3d December 1853. December 16th, discharged. His disease, dementia, verging to fatuity; same day received into poorhouse. 1854, January 9th, order for removal granted. January 10th, removed to Berwick; left in the street; slept in lodging-house; cold at the time intense. January 11th, at seven evening, is found in a grocer's shop; removed by police to poorhouse; supposed to be in a dying state; was then a mere skeleton." This is from the evidence of the witnesses. "Improved partially under treatment, but relapsed, and died on 26th April, Sunday, at 10 p. m." The verdict was, "Death from natural causes, but the conduct of the officials of the Edinburgh workhouse highly reprehensible."

3825. *Chairman.*] Was that part of the verdict?—That was part of the verdict.

3826. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the case of Mrs. Mullen?—Yes.

3827. Is that a case of which you have any personal knowledge?—Yes; it is the case of an old woman, several of whose sons were engaged in various works, the Dundivan Ironworks was one, and other works in the west of Scotland, and one of whose sons died in consequence of an accident received at one of those works. From the shock which she received in consequence, she coming into the room and not expecting to find her son dead, and finding him so, she was so very much overcome that she ultimately went deranged, and was sent to Morningside Asylum, and on her recovery was sent to Belfast.

3828. Colonel *Blair.*] Did this case happen in Edinburgh?—Yes; she was sent from Edinburgh.

3829. *Chairman.*] When?—It is very recently; I know that case myself; the accident took place on 23d November 1853 and she was sent away on her recovery. There is no peculiar hardship in it excepting the mere fact.

3830. When was the removal?—20th February 1854.

3831. Mr. *Maguire.*] You say that several of her sons were employed in various works in Scotland?—Yes.

3832. Had she been supported by her children?—Yes; she had never made any claim upon the parish until this occured.

3833. Do you know that the sons remaining in Scotland would have supported her?—I have every reason to believe it. She has returned, and gone home to them I understand again; she was residing with one of the sons, if not two.

3834. Colonel *Blair.*] In what parish?—One of them was in the employment of Messrs Wilson & Company, ironmasters of the Dundivan Ironworks, Coatbridge.

3835. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] The parish took great care of her under her affliction, by sending her to an asylum where she would be cured?—Yes, in the first instance.

3836. And after she recovered they sent her back to her parish?—They sent her to Belfast.

3837. Mr. *Maguire.*] They sent her to Belfast, her sons remaining in Scotland?—Yes.

3838. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Are you aware whether the sons made any inquiry after her when she was taken with that sad affliction?—Do you mean any inquiry at the asylum?

3839. Yes; or did they show any care about her?—Yes, I know they did; I saw the sons in Edinburgh.

3840. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Did they offer to support her after she came out?—I do not know whether they made the offer, or ever had the opportunity, but she is now with them.

3841. Mr. *Maguire.*] She has returned?—She has.

3842. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] But the parish authorities preferred sending her to Ireland to sending her to her sons, who would have supported her; they were employed in Scotland at Dundivan?—Apparently.

3843. Was it not a very expensive mode of relieving themselves?—I think so.

3844. Mr. *Stirling.*] Do you know of your own knowledge that the sons were willing to support her?—I do not know of my own knowledge; I never put the question to them; but there seemed to be no doubt in her own mind that the sons were ready to support her.

3845. *Chairman.*] Your information is derived from that?—Yes.

3846. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] What would be the expense of sending this party from Morningside to Belfast?—They are generally in company with some person; it is not very serious; probably under 1*l.*

3847. What would have been the expense of sending her to Dundivan?—Less, of course.

3848. Would it have been 5*s.*?—Probably not more.

3849. Or half-a-crown?—It would have been more than half-a-crown, I should think.

3850. Mr. *Maguire.*] Would not the hardship be less to her if she was sent the shorter distance?—Certainly.

3851. In point of fact, is that woman now living with any of the sons?—She is living with her sons now, I understand.

3852. And they are supporting her?—Yes, I have no doubt of it.

3853. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] When it would cost the parish authorities 20*s.* to send her to Belfast, do you think that these parish authorities, if she had asked to be sent to Coatbridge, which would only have cost them half-a-crown, would not have taken the cheapest way of getting rid of the pauper?—The effect of her being sent to Ireland in that way would be to entitle the parish authorities, in the event of her applying for relief a second time, to treat her as a vagrant.

3854. Then you think, if the woman had expressed a wish to go to her sons, they would have rejected it, and have gone to an extra expense of 15*s.* to send her over, in order to have the advantage thereafter of taking her up as a vagrant?—How far it may be unreasonable I do not say, but the facts seem to warrant it.

3855. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it not probable that the authorities might imagine that she would be deterred from coming back to Scotland again by reason of the dread of beingtreated as a vagrant in case she did return and again apply for relief?—Yes.

3856. Mr. *Dunlop.*] She would not be liable to be treated as a vagrant in any part of Scotland, but the parish from whence she was removed?—I believe so.

3857. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Are the Irish of that class so well acquainted with the law, as to know its effect in the way which you describe?—I think that the Irish poor are fully aware of the consequences of applying for aid under those circumstances; in fact, I can state upon the authority of Professor Alison (it is so stated in the memorial), that the Irish poor have been known to submit to the existence of cholera in their families rather than expose themselves by allowing

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application to be made to the parish authorities upon their behalf; so that they are perfectly well aware of it.

3858. That simply proves the great dislike to be sent back?—Yes.

3859. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was it not very natural that that woman should have a dislike to be sent back, when her sons were living in Scotland, and were capable of supporting her?—I think nothing more likely.

3860. Was it not natural that she should have a horror of being separated from the surviving members of her family; is there anything unnatural in that?—On the contrary.

3861. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Was it not very natural for her to express to the parish authorities that she had a son at Coatbridge, and that she wished to go there in place of going to Ireland?—It seems very natural.

3862. Is it your opinion that had she expressed that wish, the parish authorities would have sent her to Ireland?—I should not have done so myself, but what the parish authorities might feel themselves called upon to do, I really cannot take upon myself to state. Some of them have stated to us that they do so much against their own inclination.

3863. Scotchmen being generally prudent and careful of their money and their means, particularly parish officers, do you think it is natural in them to go to an expense of 20 *s.*, when 5 *s.* would have done?—Not without some ulterior object in view.

3864. Mr. *Stirling.*] You yourself do not know anything of what passed between the parish authorities and the woman?—No; I merely state the fact of her removal.

3865. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You have no information that she made the parish authorities aware of her having sons in Scotland willing to support her?—I have not.

3866. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you imagine that it would be a departure from the usual prudence and forethought of a Scotch official to go to a little extra expense, if that official were perfectly certain, or had a reasonable idea that the pauper would not come back again?—No.

3867. Have you the case of Mrs. Mary Townland or Bryson?—Yes; that is in the memorial; this is the woman's own statement.

3868. *Chairman.*] Was she brought before the committee, or did she give this to some individual member of the committee?—It was given to Dr. William Crawford; it was taken down by him from her own statement, and furnished.

3869. Did he hand it in to the committee?—He handed this case to the committee; it is a very long case.

3870. Mr. *Maguire.*] Will you state the gist of it?—The peculiar feature is that the woman was sent away while her husband was in Scotland.

3871. Have you the date of this removal?—28th February 1848.

3872. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Had the husband deserted her?—I suppose it was so held; he was in Fife at the time.

3873. *Chairman.*] Will you give us, if you can, a summary of it?—She applied for aid; it is a very simple case.

3874. To what parish?—To the city parish of Edinburgh, and she received aid, her husband being at the time in the infirmary; on his recovery he went over to a brother of the wife's in Fife to recover his health, and she received a letter from him soon afterwards to say that he had suffered a relapse and was not able to work; then she went to the inspector again, and received other 4 *s.*; then she took ill with fever herself, and she received aid occasionally; she was apprehended and the warrant for her removal to Ireland given, and she was sent to Ireland, in fact, while her husband was in Scotland.

3875. Mr. *Dunlop.*] I think the Act says that a person who shall become chargeable by himself, his wife or any of his family, may be sent, and his family with him, but I am not aware of any provision in the statute authorising parties to remove different members of a man's family when they do not remove himself; will you point out any such if it exists?—I do not know that; I have a doubt about it; in point of fact she was removed while her husband was in Fife; that is the peculiarity of the case.

3876. *Chairman.*] What is the particular view with which you mention the case?—To show that a case of that kind is a hardship.

3877. The separation of the wife from the husband?—Yes.

3878. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is there any other case which you wish to put before the Committee, as illustrating the necessary hardship in the operation of the law?—

There

There is one other case which perhaps illustrates one feature, the case of Margaret Freeil, Appendix, page 45.

3879. *Chairman.*] Did you investigate this case yourself?—It was investigated by a clerk in my employment. The peculiar feature of this case is, that the woman is a Scotch woman, married to an Irishman; and at the time she was sent, one of her boys was apprenticed to a tailor.

3880. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Was she sent to Ireland?—Yes, the whole family was sent.

3881. Was it an illegal removal?—No. I am not citing any of the cases as illegal.

3882. Can you doubt that the sending of a Scotch woman, though she married an Irishman, is an illegal removal?—I believe it to be perfectly legal.

3883. Will you point out the clause of the statute which you conceive warrants the removal of a Scotch woman, with a Scotch maiden settlement, to Ireland, because she has married an Irishman. Are you not aware that it has been decided by the Court of Session, that a woman is entitled to relief from the parish of her maiden settlement, though she has married a foreigner without any settlement at all?—My impression is that it is quite different. I do not pretend to have mastered all the peculiarities of the Law of Settlement, but my impression certainly has been hitherto that the wife acquires the husband's settlement.

3884. The wife may acquire the husband's settlement, if he have a settlement; but is there any authority in the law of Scotland for maintaining that a woman with a Scotch settlement marrying a man with no settlement forfeits her own settlement?—My impression was that it was suspended, as it were; that her settlement became the husband's.

3885. You cannot quote any authority for that opinion?—"Settlement by marriage; the wife's settlement inseparable from the husband's;" that is what Mr. Caird states.

3886. That is, supposing he has a settlement?—Supposing he has a settlement in England or in Ireland, that is my general impression; but it is laid down here that the wife's settlement in general is the settlement of the husband. Probably the authorities may have acted under an erroneous impression; but I mention the case merely to illustrate one hardship of the law, that one of the children really apprenticed at the time was sent away, notwithstanding the apprenticeship; he was taken from his trade.

3887. Was he born in Scotland?—Yes.

3888. The hardship supposed to arise from the state of the law, rather than from the misapprehension of the parties, depends upon your assumption that she and he were both legally liable to be removed?—Yes.

3889. *Chairman.*] When did this removal take place?—31st January 1849.

3890. Perhaps you can inquire into this case, and furnish us, as in the other cases, with the time of the removal and the parish removing?—Yes. [By Edinburgh city parish.] On looking more minutely into the report of this case, I now notice that the husband and the son were the only members of the family actually sent to Ireland; the wife, with the younger children, having succeeded in baffling the pursuit of the officers of the poor-house, who had intended that the whole family should have been included in the warrant for removal.

3891. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you think that the change of the law as to settlement has been of any real benefit to the Irish born poor in Scotland?—I think very much the reverse.

3892. What constituted a settlement before the change in the law?—A continuous residence of three years in the parish.

3893. And that established such a residence as was always a bar to removal?—So I understand.

3894. The settlement now is established by five years' continuous residence, and without aid?—In a parish.

3895. And that I believe you have proved by several cases, is quite liable to be broken?—It may be broken at any time by occasional relief; that is to say, interrupted.

3896. By occasional aid or change of residence for a certain time?—Yes.

3897. So that in point of fact is it not almost impossible for an Irish born person to establish such a settlement as would be a bar to removal?—It is absolutely impossible to acquire it as a permanent right, it being liable to forfeiture all his lifetime; it would never be acquired to the effect of entitling him to the benefit of irremovability in the event of his leaving the parish.

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3898. Must not that act with peculiar hardship upon a class of persons who are migratory in their habits?—Yes.

3899. They are in the constant habit of going from one part of Scotland to another, from parish to parish, in pursuit of employment?—Yes.

3900. What is your own distinct opinion as to the retention or to the abolition of the present power of removal?—I think it would be most desirable if it could be abolished, consistently with a due regard to the interests of the two countries.

3901. If it could be, as you say, repealed, would you be in favour of its repeal or its abolition?—I am not prepared to say that I would be in favour of its unconditional repeal under existing circumstances.

3902. What do you mean by "under existing circumstances"?—I think it would not be fair to Scotland, in the present state of the relations between the two countries, as regards a poor law, to repeal unconditionally the law of settlement, to the effect of entitling every person coming from England or Ireland to immediate relief upon the spot, without giving any right to the parish to recover from England or Ireland; I am not prepared to say, at present, that I should assent to that, unless the change were to be made in connexion with a corresponding change in the manner of levying the poor-rates.

3903. Would you consider that a certain residence in Scotland ought to throw the burden of the relief of that person, in case of distress or accident, upon Scotland?—I think I should be more clear upon the case of a person who had acquired a settlement in Scotland by five years' continuous residence. I think there is great hardship in the state of the law which allows that settlement to be forfeited so easily as it does. The first suggestion which the committee with which I was connected made, with the view of facilitating the acquisition of settlements was, that combinations of parishes should be made imperative in towns. My feeling is, that there is as much hardship arising out of the present state of the law of settlement as in the mere law of removal. I feel that the removal is attended almost necessarily with great hardship to individuals, and I should be desirous that some arrangement should be come to which would put an end to it altogether; but I think that it can hardly be expected that the Scotch people should be ready to acquiesce in such a measure without coming to some understanding which would relieve them of a certain portion of the burden of supporting the Irish poor in Scotland, and hence the opinion has been expressed by the members of the committee generally that there should be a change in the manner of raising the funds.

3904. Do you consider that a three years' industrial residence in Scotland ought to be an effectual bar to removal?—What I have no hesitation in stating is, that I think that a right of settlement acquired by five years' residence in a parish in Scotland should not afterwards be liable to be broken so long as the party continued to reside in Scotland; in short, that it should not be forfeited in one parish until it had been acquired somewhere else.

3905. I think you endeavoured to impress upon the Committee in the course of your statement, that the law operated differently upon the Scotch and Irish poor; that the law of removal scarcely touched the native poor, while, as we have had several proofs, it operated harshly upon the Irish?—Yes.

3906. As I understood you, a Scotchman, when he became destitute and applied to a parish for relief, was not sent to the parish of his birth generally, but the parish of his birth was made responsible for his support, by the parish giving him relief?—Yes, that is the general rule.

3907. But the general rule with regard to an Irishman has been this (at least the law admits of it), that where an Irishman, though residing a considerable number of years in Scotland, and not having a settlement, applies for relief, he is immediately liable to be sent back to Ireland?—Yes, and the Irish poor are frequently threatened with this to keep them from applying for aid.

3908. Mr. *Dunlop.*] The law also admits of a Scotch pauper being sent to his parish?—Yes.

3909. But the parishes rarely do that, because they get the money?—Yes.

3910. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it the fact that a Scotch pauper is rarely transmitted to the parish where he has a settlement?—I have known very few cases.

3911. Then, as a general rule, it is not so?—It is not so, as a general rule.

3912. The want of combination of parishes in towns you think acts very grievously?—In the way which I have already indicated.

3913. Sir John M'Neill in his evidence did not exactly suggest a remedy, but I think he stated the grievance. Sir John M'Neill in his evidence, Question

3094, says, "As I am informed, especially as regards the Irish paupers, they are subjected to a hardship, in consequence of their not knowing the limits of parishes in towns; Irish people come over and settle in a town; they do not know the limits of the parish, and by changing their residence from the limits of one parish to the limits of another, they fail to acquire a settlement, although they have resided in the town the length of time that otherwise would have given them a settlement." Can you corroborate that statement?—Yes, that is the leading ground of complaint. It is a suggestion of the committee, in which I fully agree, that combinations of all the parishes in every borough or large town, in all that regards the legal provision for the poor, should be made imperative.

3914. Supposing the law could not be entirely repealed, what improvements would you suggest in it?—On the assumption that the law of removal is to continue in force, the suggestions which occur to me as being likely to afford a partial mitigation, and a very important mitigation of the hardships incidental to its operation, would be, first, a combination of parishes in large towns, at least, to the effect of entitling a party residing in any part of the town for five years to acquire a right of relief in the town.

3915. *Chairman.*] So as to make a large town, one parish for that purpose?—Yes, that was the first idea that occurred to us.

3916. Mr. *Dunlop.*] So that the residence should not be broken by removing from one side of a street to the other?—Yes, that is one suggestion; I would also suggest that a settlement thus once acquired should not, afterwards, be liable to forfeiture by non-residence until such time at least as the party had acquired a settlement in another parish in Scotland, and especially that the circumstance of his requiring aid within five years should not be made a ground for interruping the residence by which settlement is acquired.

3917. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you any other suggestion to make?—There is one suggestion which was also made in the memorial in the propriety of which I likewise concur, viz. that a woman deserted by her husband should have a power to acquire a settlement by residence, and the ground of that, partly at least, is this that if she were his mistress instead of his wife she could acquire an industrial settlement.

3918. *Chairman.*] Or if she were his widow?—Yes.

3919. You would put her upon the footing of a widow?—Yes, there is a case mentioned in the Appendix of Catherine Morgan, Appendix C. page 47, a woman 85 years of age, the wife of a soldier, who deserted her, and who returned after an absence of 53 years, and she had been living I think the whole of that time in Edinburgh, and did not succeed in gaining a settlement.

3920. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you think that the object of the Irish poor in coming to Scotland, is to beg, or to throw themselves upon the parish for support?—I do not think that it can possibly be the object of a labouring man who comes to Scotland, his object is to find employment.

3921. Do you apprehend that you will have in future a large pauper emigration from Ireland to Scotland?—I should not apprehend that as a consequence of such a change in the law as I have pointed out. If a change in the law equivalent to a total abolition of the law of removal were to take effect at once, I should not exactly be prepared to say that there would not be a fear of such a result, but looking forward to five years, I do not think that it would afford such an inducement to any person as to make it a great object, if any.

3922. With respect to the importance of the Irish population to Scotland, do you think that the Irish population are of great importance to Scotland?—Yes, I do.

3923. In what way?—I think the labouring population is of very great importance in such a town as Glasgow for instance.

3924. Did you ever hear or see it stated that the Irish in Glasgow were essential to its industrial progress?—I have seen that stated.

3925. Where have you seen it stated?—I saw it stated in a document which was handed to me with reference to another totally different subject, an address presented by the Glasgow Public School Association to Earl Granville, with reference to national education.

3926. The document referred to is "A memorial on behalf of a national system of education, addressed to the Right honourable the Earl Granville, by the Glasgow Public School Association, February 1854"?—Yes.

3927. Amongst the names signed I believe is "John Tennant, of St. Rollox, chairman"?—Yes.

3928. Is he a man of very high position?—The statement to which I refer

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derived a great part of its importance, in my eyes, from the fact of its having been signed by him.

3929. "James M'Clelland, 10, Claremont-terrace, Glasgow," is another?—Yes.

3930. "Richard S. Cunliffe" another, and "George Smith" another?—Yes.

3931. Are those names of reliable persons?—Yes.

3932. In the memorial I find this passage: "At the late meeting at Glasgow, under the presidency of Lord Panmure, in the midst, be it recollected, of a population with which 100,000 Catholics are intermingled, and to whose industrial progress they are essential;" in point of fact, those parties might be otherwise described as Irish?—Yes.

3933. That statement is made in the memorial, that they are essential to the industrial progress of Glasgow?—It is.

3934. How are the Irish generally employed in Scotland; in what class of work; is it rough labour?—Yes, generally.

3935. Are they employed on railways?—Yes.

3936. Public works?—Yes.

3937. In factories?—Yes.

3938. In mills?—Yes.

3939. In buildings, and generally in rough work of all kinds?—Yes.

3940. Are a great many Irish girls employed in the factories?—A great many.

3941. Is not the work in the factories what we might designate as, to a certain extent, skilled labour, or requiring skilled labour?—I am not quite prepared to state that.

3942. Do you know that in Dundee there are a large number of Irish girls?—Yes, I happen to know that personally.

3943. *Chairman.*] How employed?—In the factories.

3944. Mr. *Maguire.*] The Irishmen are mainly employed, I believe, in the collieries and iron works?—Many of them.

3945. Do you think, from your own knowledge of the country, that it would be possible to carry on these collieries and iron works without the aid of that Irish population?—There might be a difficulty. I can quite suppose so; but that is a subject to which I have not directed my particular attention; and, as I have stated, I rather take it on the authority of others. My impression is, from all that I have understood upon the subject, that they are, if not essential (I do not go so far as that), at least a very important part.

3946. *Chairman.*] They must be very valuable?—Yes.

3947. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know whether there are many Irish in the police in Edinburgh?—I do not know the relative numbers of Scotch and Irish, but I know that there are a considerable number of Irish.

3948. And generally, I believe, no persons are taken into the police but men of respectable character and intelligence?—I have understood that very great care now is exercised in that respect; that they are very strict.

3949. In Sir John M'Neill's evidence, given before this Committee, he read a letter from an inspector, a Mr. Brown, in which there is this passage: "If the poor coming from Ireland brought with them cultivated minds and virtuous habits, their presence amongst our own people might possibly compensate to some extent for the burden of their support,"—I call your particular attention to this—"but the great mass is unhappily of an entirely opposite character, destitute of education, coarse and sensual in their feelings and habits, and insensible to the value of anything which does not directly minister to the gross appetites of animal nature." From your knowledge of the Irish do you think that that is a fair representation of the great mass of that population, so far as your experience goes?—I should be sorry to apply such a description to any large class of either Irishmen or Scotchmen, or any other nation.

3950. In point of fact, do you think it is justified?—Certainly not; as applicable to the great bulk of the Irish in Scotland.

3951. The words are "the great mass." It is not applicable to them?—Certainly not.

3952. Will you give your reasons why it is not?—I was going to ask the precise value of the expression; I do not quite understand what may be meant by it.

3953. Suppose we take either the virtue of sobriety or the vice of intemperance; generally speaking, are they less sober or more intemperate than their Scotch neighbours?—My conviction, founded upon all that I have ever seen upon the subject is, that the habits of the Irish population, as a whole, would not suffer by comparison with the habits and morals of those among whom they reside.

3954. Are

3954. Are they more addicted to the vice of drunkenness than the Scotch?—I have no reason to suppose so.

3955. As to honesty; do you think they are less honest than the very poor class of the Scotch?—I do not think they are less honest; but the criminal statistics, I think, would furnish information upon that point with respect to honesty; and I may refer to Professor Alison once more upon that subject as an authority.

3956. What does Professor Alison say?—In his pamphlet read at Belfast, he refers to the conduct of a body of labourers, both Irish and Scotch.

3957. Will you have the kindness to read that passage; it was publicly delivered, I believe, at Belfast, at a meeting of the British Association?—Yes. Speaking of the law of settlement and removal, he says: "It may be very generally observed that the natural result of a law inflicting unnecessary and undeserved suffering on any portion of the community is, that those people, and especially the younger people, learn systematically (and among themselves boastfully) to evade it. Those against whom the law is, will usually be against the law. We cannot be surprised, therefore, to find that various frauds and petty thefts are common, and that many children are early initiated into such practices, although belonging to a class (the Irish in Scotland), the working members of which cannot in general be justly said to be either deficient in industry or prone to crime."

3958. Do you not look upon that as a distinct contradiction to the statement which I have read to you?—Emphatically, as I understand it. "As this last position may be doubted, I give a single example (and I am assured by no means a singular one) of the conduct of a large body of Irish labourers, varying from 370 to 260, and associated with a somewhat smaller number of Scotch labourers (the whole number having varied from 630 to 450), during four years together, in executing the waterworks lately constructed on the Pentland Hills, for the supply of the town of Edinburgh. This large body of men, several miles from any town, were watched by a single policeman, who happened to be my tenant; and although there were, as might be expected, occasional quarrels, and men apprehended for assaults, there were only five during the four years accused of theft. In the year 1850, when the number of Irish was 370," that is the highest figure, "there was not a single theft; and after becoming a little accustomed to these neighbours, all the inhabitants even of this retired and thinly peopled part of the country felt perfectly secure both as to person and property."

3959. Again, speaking in reference to this negligence of everything which does not directly minister to the gross appetites of an animal nature, may I ask you, is the marriage tie held less sacred by the Irish in Scotland than by those of the same class among the natives?—I am not aware that it is; I should say not less.

3960. You said that you knew there were a number of Irish girls employed in the mills and factories of Dundee; have you any means of knowing what their general character is?—Yes; without having any idea, at the time, that I should be asked any questions upon the subject, and without having made any special inquiries on the subject, I have heard it stated in Dundee, with respect both to the girls and the men employed there, that it was not an unusual thing for the magistrates to refer in complimentary terms to the conduct of the Irish there; and with respect to the girls employed at the factory, I have good reason to believe, indeed I may say to know, so far that I cannot doubt either the means which my informant had of knowing or his accuracy in point of fact, that the conduct of the girls with respect to morality is most striking, and that any breach of the laws of chastity is all but unknown.

3961. Is it very probable that they should so much respect the law of chastity, and the violations of that law should be so infrequent, if their parents could be represented as "insensible to the value of anything which does not directly minister to the gross appetites of animal nature"?—No.

3962. Is it likely that such good fruit could result from so bad a tree as that?—It seems inconsistent.

3963. I believe that in certain great factories in Scotland the Irish very much predominate?—Yes.

3964. Did you ever hear of a Scotch proprietor, having extensive works or factories, preferring to employ the Irish?—I do not know a case of the kind myself; I believe that it is not unknown in Scotland that even a Scotch gentleman prefers Irish labourers to Scotch.

3965. Is it the fact that many Irish who have come over to Scotland very poor, with nothing but their unskilled labour to maintain them when they first came

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came over, have gradually acquired a position in society of a certain kind?—I have known a few instances of such.

3966. Take Glasgow and Edinburgh; are there several Irish there in business?—Yes; I speak more particularly with regard to Edinburgh.

3967. Though as yet they have not risen very high in the social scale, still they have made a vast stride in proportion to their commencement, have they not?—Men have realised a good deal of capital in various ways.

3968. Have they maintained a character for integrity and honesty and propriety?—Yes; I know several such instances.

3969. It was said by a gentleman from Scotland, Mr. Smythe, that he would not rely upon the statements of the Irish paupers, even though they were made on oath; would you go so far as Mr. Smythe, as to say that you would not believe an Irish pauper upon his or her oath, even though that might be given in support of his or her own case. In Question 3481 he is asked, "Is there not a very great and wide difference between implicit confidence and utter incredulity; I think you went to that extent?" and the answer is, "I have used a strong expression. I would not believe them on their oaths (that was the expression which I used), without being confirmed by other evidence." Would you express an opinion similar to that?—No, I should not feel inclined to express an opinion to that effect.

3970. Would you, as a general rule, not believe the statement of an Irish pauper, even though that statement was made on his or her behalf, that statement being given on oath?—My impression is, that they have the same feeling with regard to the sanctity of the character of an oath as other poor persons; it all depends upon the character of the individual.

3971. And while some might not be believed, others ought to be believed?—Clearly.

3972. And you by no means take that as a general rule, even though confined to paupers?—I should be sorry indeed to do so.

3973. You have had some experience yourself in this matter?—I have had occasion to see a good deal of the Irish poor.

3974. Have you had occasion to test the accuracy of statements which were made to you?—Yes.

3975. To inquire into them?—Yes.

3976. And to obtain corroborative testimony?—Yes.

3977. Did you find, as a general rule, that the original statement was falsified by the evidence which you elicited or obtained afterwards?—Not in its main features. I have not found that any case which has been reported upon the authority of the parties themselves has ever been contradicted or disproved in its leading features.

3978. You would suppose, I should think, it very probable and natural that a poor ignorant person might not be strictly correct when representing a case of hardship as a case of illegality, or *vice versâ*?—There is a difference between ignorant misrepresentation and wilful misrepresentation; sometimes mistakes occur.

3979. Have you ever heard of a case where a person of an humble class, entrusted with the administration of the law, has either exaggerated, or prevaricated, or not spoken the truth?—I do not happen to have any case in my mind at present.

3980. Would you implicitly believe every statement made by an ignorant official?—No.

3981. Would you take everything of the kind for granted in a court?—No, not from the fact of his being an official.

3982. Are you able, from your knowledge of the Irish poor, derived from your investigation into cases brought under your notice, to concur in the conclusion to which this gentleman has arrived, that he would not believe them on their oaths?—I know some individuals who are receiving parish aid, whose word I would as readily accept as that of any person with whom I am acquainted.

3983. *Chairman.*] You are quite aware that the Committee will expect from you particulars of the dates and parishes to which you have referred in the several cases which you have brought before them, and you will endeavour to furnish us with them?—Yes.

3984. With regard to the mode of charging the burden of Irish pauperism in Scotland, has your own opinion remained unaltered upon that, or has it undergone fluctuation as to whether Ireland or Scotland ought to bear it?—My original impression was, that there should be some equitable arrangement as between the two countries, and the proposition was, that the Scotch parish, during the first five years of an Irishman's residence in a parish in Scotland, should have the power

power of relieving the case at the expense of Ireland, but that after that the burden should rest upon Scotland.

3985. Does this passage appear in the memorial to which you have referred, and was it the opinion of the gentlemen composing the association at that time: —"It is submitted that all these evils would be corrected, and the relief of the Irish poor in Scotland would be put, as it ought to be, on the same footing as that of the English and Scotch, if the parochial authorities in Scotland were entitled to relieve Irish persons possessing no settlement in Scotland, as well as Scotch, on the footing of occasional poor, and then to send certified statements of the relief given to the office of the Commissioners for the Poor in Ireland, and claim repayment. This point being settled to the advantage of the Scotch parochial Boards, there would be no reasonable objection on the other hand to abandoning the power of sending Irish applicants for relief back to Ireland against their will, and thus the chief grievances of the Irish poor in Scotland would be at once redressed."

3985.* That was the opinion, I apprehend, of the committee at that time?—Yes, taken in connexion with another suggestion, that combinations of parishes should be made imperative in towns.

3986. I believe that you sent a copy of that memorial to Sir John M'Neill?—Yes.

3987. Did you receive a letter from him in which this passage occurs: "The recovery from Ireland of sums advanced to the paupers you propose to make chargeable on that country encounters *in limine* this difficulty, that they are not chargeable on any particular parish or union, and that there is no central or national fund in Ireland, so far as I am aware, from which such advances could be repaid. To arrive at the object you propose, it would be necessary either to introduce into Ireland a law of settlement which would make every pauper locally chargeable, or to create a central fund by some change in the system of rating. Now these are matters not very easy or safe to deal with, especially in Ireland; and we must remember that they are proposals to change not the Scots but the Irish poor-law, which we should have to make to the Legislature." Do you remember Sir John communicating to you that answer?—Yes.

3988. Upon that, was an answer sent to Sir John M'Neill by your committee?—Yes.

3989. Is there contained in it this passage; "Sir John's objection is that this involves a change in the Irish poor-law which is not easily accomplished; and that there is no central fund in Ireland by which this expense can be defrayed. To this it may be replied that there is certainly a machinery in Ireland (as in various foreign countries) by which funds raised for the poor in one part of the country are transmitted, under the name of rate in aid, to other parts, and by which funds transmitted from England, and put at the disposal of the Poor Law Commissioners in Dublin, are sent to different distressed unions; and the same machinery may surely be employed to transmit funds of the same description to Scotland. At any rate, there being a difficulty in having a burden which is justly theirs laid on the ratepayers in Ireland is no reason why the people of Scotland, and particularly the charitable inhabitants of the Scottish towns, should be subjected to such evils, and their efforts for the improvement of the social condition and health of their towns so continually frustrated by an obvious cause, without remonstrance"?—Yes.

3990. This same subject has been discussed, has it not, by Dr. Alison in the pamphlet to which you referred, namely, a paper read at Belfast?—It has, which was submitted to the Committee also.

3991. Had that your concurrence also?—Yes.

3992. Does this passage occur in that paper: "On sufficient evidence of destitution legally entitled to relief in Irish families resident in any part of Scotland, the parochial authorities there should be authorised to treat them as they treat poor persons belonging to another parish in Scotland itself, on proof of their becoming helpless and destitute within their bounds, *i. e.*, to give them relief, and send a certified statement of the relief given, and the circumstances demanding it, to those who are legally bound to relieve those persons, and claim repayment of the outlay; and since the present law of Ireland imposes no such burden on any one district, but gives all persons falling destitute there the right to claim relief in whatever union they may be, it seems reasonable that the funds by which such advances in behalf of Irish poor are to be repaid shall be raised over the whole of Ireland, and paid at the office of the Commissioners in Dublin." That was the suggestion which you came to at that time?—That was the first suggestion.

3993. I think you say that you have since adopted Mr. Pashley's most recent views?—They are also set forth in that pamphlet.

3994. That is, of raising a certain portion generally over the empire by a kind of national rate, and the rest to be raised locally?—Yes, partly local, and partly general.

3995. In every change which your opinions have undergone upon the subject, I understand that you have thought that the burden, wholly or in part, should be borne by Ireland?—Wholly or in part; in part at any rate.

3996. That Ireland should either bear the whole of this charge, or that it should, at all events, contribute under Mr. Pashley's system?—Certainly.

3997. Do you still retain that opinion?—I am clearly of opinion, that if it is to be a universal rate, a fair and just proportion should be borne by each country.

3998. Mr. *Maguire.*] A statement was made by one of the witnesses the other day, in reference to the wives of men who are employed with good wages, going out and begging; have you found that, so far as your experience goes, as a general rule?—Not as a general rule.

3999. Are those instances rare?—I think that in cases of desertion it may occur, but I do not happen to know of any case where I was able to bring home a charge of that nature against a woman whose husband was employed at the time, receiving good wages.

4000. Receiving good wages and having constant employment?—There may be such cases.

4001. But you never heard of it as the general habit of the Irish?—No.

4002. Was your attention ever called to a series of letters that appeared in the "Scotsman" newspaper; did you ever happen to see that series of letters (*handing a document to the Witness*)?—Yes.

4003. "Letters on Destitution and Vice in Edinburgh. Reprinted from the 'Scotsman' newspaper, by Adam and Charles Black, 1850." There is this passage, to which alone I will call your attention: "Virtues may be found in the most unpromising situations, and it is not going too far to say that in the hovels of the poor Irish of the Cowgate, virtues will be met with which are not over-abundant in the best society in Edinburgh." Do you think that that is an exaggeration in reference to the Irish?—I believe that virtues such as the pamphlet describes may be found in abundance in such localities amongst the poor.

4004. Would you say that those who are reduced to so miserable a condition as to be obliged to live in these mere hovels in the Cowgate, are the scum of society?—Certainly not.

4005. From your acquaintance with the destitute poor of the Irish-born who live in the Cowgate, would you say that they are amongst the scum of society?—Certainly not; and I think that the description in that letter is more applicable to the character of the Irish than the other description.

4006. You have had personal and intimate knowledge of all this for years, have you not?—Yes, I have. I do not say personal and intimate knowledge of all the Irish, but of a considerable number.

4007. Amongst the unfortunate women in Edinburgh, have you ever heard that there are very few Irish?—Yes, I have heard there are very few comparatively.

4008. Were you ever told that the total number in Edinburgh was computed at 6,000 or 7,000?—I think a statement to that effect was made to me by one of the criminal officers; several thousands; but I cannot state as to the precise number.

4009. That was the impression left upon your mind by the statement?—That is the impression which remains upon my mind.

4010. And is it the impression upon your mind that there are very few Irish amongst them?—The statement which I received left that impression upon me also, that they were comparatively extremely few.

4011. Therefore a statement of that kind is quite contradictory of the assertion which I have read to you as written by Mr. Brown?—I should look upon it as contradictory of a very essential portion of that statement.

4012. Mr. *Stirling.*] You said that you knew several persons who received parochial relief, the details of whose cases you received from persons of your acquaintance?—Yes.

4013. Are any of those persons Irish?—Yes.

4014. Has your connexion with the Irish population anything to do with the administration of the Poor Law?—No.

4015. Is it merely from private benevolence?—Yes.

4016. You are aware that the gentleman who gave the evidence which has been commented upon by the Honourable Member on the opposite side of the table, was Mr. Smythe, the secretary of the Board of Supervision?—Yes.

4017. Do you think that your experience is as large, or that your opportunities of

of knowing the character of the Irish paupers are as good as those of Mr. Smythe? —In one sense, yes, and in another, no; my knowledge is personal knowledge founded upon a pretty extensive intercourse amongst them; and in another sense, no. because Mr. Smythe's experience is in his official capacity, and must be much more extended than mine, although of quite a different kind.

4018. Your knowledge of them being to a certain extent private, do you think it is likely that they would seem more moral to you, whom they might look upon as their friend, than to a gentleman in an official capacity?—It is perfectly possible there may be something in that statement; but I think Mr. Smythe is singularly unfortunate in his cases; I think I could have produced as many cases of parties who are highly respectable. though in humble circumstances, whose character would be very inconsistent with that which he has found amongst those with whom he has come in contact.

4019. Do you think that it is not unnatural that the conclusion which you and Mr. Smythe might come to from examining of the same parties might be different; you might see the best side of their character, and Mr. Smythe might probably see the worst?—There are some parties with regard to whose character I can have no doubt. I have known them for years. I believe that the officials of the Board themselves would be ready to corroborate what I state with regard to them if I mentioned their names.

4020. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] What number of years has the committee been in existence with which you are connected?—I think only since 1848; but it was in consequence, I may say, of the experience which I had had, and of the facts which I had observed previous to that, that this committee came to existence; in fact, it was the occasion of my introduction to Professor Alison.

4021. You have given 10 cases of grievance in the course of your examination; does that form a large proportion of the number which have occurred during your experience?—No.

4022. What proportion is it of the whole number?—I believe they are a very small proportion.

4023. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You give them as illustrations of different kinds of hardship?—Yes.

4024. Mr. *Maguire.*] And not to represent the amount by any means?—Certainly not.

4025. And your knowledge of the Irish resident in Edinburgh extended back several years previous to the foundation of that committee?—Yes.

4026. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Over how many years does your experience extend?—I think, since 1846 or 1845.

4027. Since the commencement of the operation of the present law?—Yes.

4028. I think, in answer to a question of the Honourable Member for Perthshire, you stated that you considered that in some respects your experience was superior to that of Mr. Smythe?—In as far as I was brought more directly into communication with the parties than he in his official capacity was called upon to be.

4029. But your experience is, I suppose, confined altogether to Edinburgh?—Yes, my personal experience.

4030. Are you aware that his information extends to the whole of Scotland?—Yes.

4031. Do you consider that these paupers were generally truthful in the statements which they made to you, or that they were generally coloured?—It depends so much upon individuals, that I could scarcely say. In taking down a statement of the kind, I am not in the habit of assuming that it is necessarily untrue. I generally assume that the statement is true; but of course that is only the first statement; and if at any future time I should see reason to doubt it, of course I should not continue credence in the person.

4032. Did you find that you were frequently deceived at first?—I was occasionaly; I do not refer to statements of grievance under the law of removal; but only that at an earlier period of my intercourse with the poor, I had more difficulty in distinguishing the really necessitous.

4033. I do not know whether I quite understood the answer which you gave to the Right Honourable Chairman, with regard to the alteration which you would suggest in the mode of giving relief; would you continue the five years term of settlement, allowing the Scotch parish to have a claim upon the Irish parish for relief afforded to an Irish pauper during those five years?—I think I stated that that would materially mitigate the hardship of the law, and would be an improvement founded upon the existing law, as it were. I should desire, if it were pos-

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sible, to abolish the law of removal entirely, but upon such a footing as would make the burden be borne equitably by the country at large; but, as I stated at first, I think that that would be an improvement upon the law as it stands.

4034. Suppose that during this period of five years the pauper was relieved by the Scotch parish with a claim upon the Irish parish, would that vitiate the term of five years, or do you mean that after a residence of five years, then a settlement must be established?—Our feeling generally was that the mere fact of a man receiving aid, perhaps for a week or so, in temporary illness, during the currency of the five years, should not interrupt the run of it, and should not vitiate the settlement.

4035. Supposing it was for a month, would you treat it in the same way?—I cannot say that I have a very decided opinion about that. I think that I rather express Professor Alison's opinion upon that subject than my own; his opinion would be decidedly against allowing the claim to be vitiated in the case of a labouring man.

4036. Under any circumstances?—I do not say under any circumstances, certainly under those stated in the answer to a former query (3916); in fact, I am not quite clear about that; my opinion would be in favour of the abolition of the law altogether, upon some such footing as I have already indicated.

4037. Mr. *Maguire.*] The Honourable Member has spoken of your opinions being based upon your personal experience; are not your opinions, to a certain extent, based upon the opinions of others, formed from their experience as well as your own?—Yes.

4038. Do you not express the opinions of those who have a much more extended knowledge of the Irish; a knowledge not confined to the immediate locality?—I believe that my opinions are not at all singular in that respect. I believe they are shared by others.

4039. Have you been in communication with other persons who have knowledge of the Irish population in other parts of Scotland?—Not recently.

4040. Have you at any time, with respect to the character of the Irish?—I have no doubt whatever that the character of the Irish in Edinburgh is not better than the character of the Irish in other parts of Scotland. On the contrary, in Dundee, from what I have stated, I think it is possible that the character of the Irish is even higher than in Edinburgh.

4041. Do you think, then, that the character of the Irish in Edinburgh may be taken as the test or standard by which to judge of the general character of the Irish population in Scotland as a whole?—I think that it is certainly not better in Edinburgh than it is in other parts of Scotland.

4042. As to temporary illness, is it your opinion that a *bonâ fide* case of temporary illness extending to a month or even six weeks should not have the effect of breaking the settlement?—I think it ought not; that was our feeling. I have no limit as to the time; a short time, I think. I do not exactly say a month or the number of weeks. In the case of illness, the charitable institutions very often give relief, and it does not come from the funds in that way.

4043. But if they did apply for parochial relief in consequence of temporary illness, are you of opinion that it ought not to vitiate or break the settlement?—I have not formed a decided opinion about it, but I incline to the view that occasional relief for a comparatively short time, even for six weeks, where there is no chance of the pauper becoming a permanent burden, should not interrupt the acquisition of the settlement.

4044. And that the administration of that temporary relief is oftentimes attended with the best consequences, in not rendering the individual a burden to the community?—Yes.

4045. And that the refusal of that temporary relief, unless on certain conditions, such as removal, entails great hardship upon the individual, and really does burden the community itself?—It tends to the propagation of disease, as I stated.

4046. That is, in preventing applications?—By preventing applications, and concealing the existence of disease, and promoting destitution, a very powerful cause of disease.

4047. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Will you allow me to ask what countryman you are?—A Scotchman.

4048. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You think that the late Act introduced changes very unfavourable to Irishmen, compared with what was the case before?—I think so.

4049. I suppose you mean in increasing the number of years for acquiring a settlement, and in allowing it to be forfeited?—Yes; and also by rendering them liable to removal and imprisonment.

4050. On the other hand, are they not in some respects in a better condition by the late Act; before the Act, unless they acquired a settlement, they had no right to relief at all; is not that the case?—Yes. *J. F. Gordon*, E 19 June 1854

4051. Now they are entitled to relief whether they have a settlement or not?—Yes.

4052. Before the Act a party residing three years could not acquire a settlement if he became an object of parochial relief, whether he applied for relief or not; by the Act he will acquire a settlement, though he become an object of relief if he does not apply, and receive it?—Yes.

LETTER from Mr. *J. Wood* to *J. F. Gordon*, Esq., W. S., 1 Nelson-street.

Sir, Edinburgh, 2 August 1854.

IN reference to your verbal request to me to-day, to furnish you with copy of my letter to Dr. Alison, in certain cases contained in a memorial to the Board of Supervision on the removals of Irish poor, I beg to say, that having considered your request, I cannot see that I am called upon to comply with your request, seeing that the question of removals is closed so far as the examination of witnesses by the Committee of the House of Commons is concerned, seeing also the production of the letter in question could serve no good purpose, even though given in as evidence to that Committee; and also, seeing that the matter, in so far as I am concerned, was at the time very irksome and disagreeable to me, and was finally conclusively and satisfactorily settled by the "Postcript to the Memorial" of date 6th March 1852.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *Joseph Wood.*

Jovis, 22° die Junii, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Maguire.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Stirling.
Sir John Young.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Frederick Solly Flood, Esq., called in; and further Examined.

4053. *Chairman.*] CAN you give the Committee the date of the removal of Elizabeth M'Guirk, the case which you mentioned in answer to Question 3164?—About the 6th of July 1852, and she was admitted into the workhouse on the 13th of August following. The examination, a copy of which I handed in, was, I think, taken on the 30th of March in the last year. She was also examined on the 24th of September last, by a committee of the Board of Guardians; she was again examined immediately after it was known that a Committee would be moved for to inquire into the subject of removals. The two last examinations were conducted by myself; and upon all the three occasions the woman's statement was entirely consistent, and impressed me and all who heard her with implicit confidence in her veracity. *F. S. Flood*, Es 22 June 1854

4054. Is there any observation which you wish to make with respect to that case?—The circumstances under which that information was taken were these: it was an information which was taken, not by me, but before a brother magistrate, under the Act of Parliament which makes it an offence punishable by one month's imprisonment for a person to desert, or wilfully to refuse to support his family. The information on the last occasion, to which I have alluded, was read over in my presence, and in the presence of the pauper, and the cross-examination, by myself, which then took place is added in the paper which I handed in. The examination on the 24th of September had reference to an allegation that irregularities had occurred in the administration of the Act which I have mentioned. And as it must be admitted that the application for a warrant was clearly an improper one, being founded upon an information which ought not to have been taken, that of a married woman against her husband, besides which, the husband, instead of being guilty of an offence, was really the most injured party, I think it only just to the Board of Guardians to say, that they do not now permit the master to make such applications without their previous sanction; and in justice to the

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magistrates let me add, that such a mistake as the reception of an information by a married woman against her husband, for a mere statutable offence against the poor laws, or that of issuing a warrant, where manifestly no offence had been committed, could only have occurred in the hurry of business, and such mistakes are not likely to occur again. I should not have thought it necessary to make this explanation but I have learnt that it is wished that I should do so, and that I should remove a misapprehension which otherwise might exist, that a casual error was in conformity with our settled practice as guardians, and our notions of law and justice as magistrates, whereas the very contrary is the fact.

William Stuart Walker, Esq., called in; and Examined.

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4055. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are the present Secretary of the Board of Supervision at Edinburgh?—I am.

4056. Did you succeed Mr. Smythe in that office?—I did.

4057. Have you turned your attention to the subject of the operation of the present law of removal from Scotland to Ireland?—I have, since the appointment of this Committee. Previously to that, I had occasional opportunity of observing its operation from my duties at the Board of Supervision.

4058. You are aware that the object of this Committee is to inquire into the operation of that law?—Yes.

4059. Can you give the Committee any information upon that subject? First, with respect to the regulations and recommendations of the Board of Supervision, have you had an opportunity of seeing the evidence given here by Sir John M'Neill?—I have.

4060. You probably concur in the evidence which he gave upon that point?—Yes; I think, entirely.

4061. Have you anything to add to his evidence with reference to the regulations and recommendations of that Board relating to this subject?—No, I think not; I think Sir John M'Neill has brought under the notice of the Committee all the regulations and recommendations that have been issued by the Board of Supervision; and I understand that his suggestion is, that the Board of Supervision should have further power entrusted to them than they at present possess, with a view to the issue of additional regulations more stringent in their nature.

4062. That of course would require a new Act of Parliament?—It would require statutory authority.

4063. Do you concur in the view which he has expressed to the Committee upon that subject?—I do.

4064. Are you also of opinion that it would be better to leave a discretionary power to the Board of Supervision to make regulations of that kind, than to set them out in the Act itself?—I think that the course suggested by Sir John M'Neill would have this manifest advantage, that the Board would be able to modify their rules as circumstances arose, whereas the enactments of a statute are unbending.

4065. Upon that ground you prefer the one to the other?—Yes; and perhaps I may be allowed to observe, that the suggestion of Sir John M'Neill to a certain extent is in prosecution of the system at present in operation with regard to the administration of the Poor-law in Scotland; such a power of issuing rules which shall have a statutory force is at present entrusted to the Board of Supervision, these rules requiring the sanction of the Secretary for the Home Department for the time being; and that has been found I believe to work well.

4066. Have you any observation to make upon the subject of the practice pursued in obtaining the warrants and effecting the removals?—Personally I have had no opportunity of course, of seeing the details of the practice; but since this Committee has been sitting I have made inquiries so far as I was enabled to make them, and I think my information may be held to be confined to the county of Edinburgh; I do not think that I can give satisfactory information to the Committee beyond those limits.

4067. From what sources do you derive your information?—I had an interview with the assistant inspector in the law department for the city parish of Edinburgh, whose duty it is to carry through the whole of the removals from the city parish. I subsequently received a communication from him in writing, in reference to it. I also went to the Justice of the Peace Court for the city, and saw their clerk. I went to the clerk to the county justices, and had some information given me in that office. The clerk himself was not in, but one of the officials was there.

4068. And this information you applied for in your official character, I suppose, as secretary of the Board of Supervision?—I announced who I was. I also saw Mr. Gray, who now very frequently sits in the City Justice of Peace Court, as a justice. He was at one time a bailie of the City of Edinburgh, and was for several years chairman of the Parochial Board of the City of Edinburgh.

4069. Have you any information to add to that which has been given by Sir John M'Neill upon this part of the case derived from these sources which you mention?—I could detail to the Committee the steps of procedure and the manner in which those warrants are obtained,

4070. Will you be good enough to do so?—Perhaps, in the first place, I had better read a letter I received, and to which I referred before, from Mr. Greig, the assistant inspector in the law department. "Referring to the conversation I had with you, as to the removal of paupers by warrant, and to the request you made at my leaving you, I beg to state, that on its being reported to me by the relieving inspectors or the governer of the poorhouse that there are a number of vagrants chargeable, I proceed as follows: 1st. Two days before the day on which I mean to prosecute complaints, I inform the clerk to the justices of the peace of my intention, when he summonses three justices to attend on the day proposed, at 12 noon. 2d. He goes down his roll of justices systematically, as they stand, and writes such three in rotation, and they are requested to attend for the purpose of hearing complaints against vagrants, with a view to their removal, or to find substitutes in the event of the day and hour being inconvenient for them. 3d. The day previous to the courts day, I cause any vagrant paupers in receipt of relief, and whose health, I understand, will admit of their removal, to be brought into the poorhouse preparatory to their removal. 4th. On the morning of the removal day, say about 10 o'clock a.m., I, accompanied by a doctor of medicine, and the governor of the poorhouse, visit the wards of the poorhouse in which the vagrants proposed to be removed are lodged, and the doctor examines each vagrant separately, and either certifies their fitness for removal, or states that he does not consider them fit for the proposed journey. In the latter event, they are of course allowed to remain without being carried before the justices. 5th. Such vagrants as are certified to be fit for removal are warned to prepare for going before the justices, where they are taken at noon. 6th. The cases are all tried in open court. 7th. Upon being brought before the justices, each vagrant, if single, or in the case of a family, the head of the family, has the complaint read to him by the clerk to the justices, and its objects is explained by him. 8th. The presiding justice then puts the defender on oath," (that is, the pauper), "to tell the truth, unless in the case of insane or pupil paupers, and the party complained against is then interrogated by me relative to their age, their condition, the place of their birth and residences, and whether or not they are and have been chargeable to this Board as paupers. 9th. This being done, the clerk to the justices reads over to the defender his deposition, and asks him whether his answers have been correctly taken down or not. If the answer is in the affirmative, he is required to subscribe his deposition, if he can write, and if he cannot write, this fact is made part of the deposition, and in either event the justices subscribe the whole. 10th. If the case is clear against the defender, I crave a warrant to remove, and the justices, after considering the complaints and evidence, grant or refuse the craving, according as they see fit. 11th. If the case is not clear upon the deposition of the defender, I adduce witnesses, all of whom are examined also in court, and upon oath, and the justices dispose of the matter; the whole proceedings being in open court, and not unfrequently adjourned. 12th. The defender is, of course, allowed to adduce any evidence he sees fit, and adjournments are granted to enable him to do so, if he requests this. 13th. Those whom I obtain warrants to remove are then taken back to the poorhouse, and kept there until the following morning, when they are usually conveyed to their destination by a justice of peace constable. 14th. In the case of lunatics, or orphan or deserted children, these are always conveyed by the constable, not merely to the country they belong to, but the locality they belong to, and are there handed over to the relieving officer of the union. 15th. In the case of parties able to take care of themselves, the officer on reaching the place where he is to leave them, gives each vagrant, or head of a family, the warrant under which he has been removed. 16th. All English and Irish parties applying for relief are warned, that in the event of their having no settlement in Scotland, they will be removed to their own country." Mr. Greig explained to me, with reference to that, that in the hall of the poorhouse, where the parties come to make application, there is a printed notice up informing

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informing these people that they become liable to be removed, if they obtain relief without a settlement.

4071. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is that in case of temporary distress or illness?—I understand the notice to be given for the purpose of informing the parties of the law. I should explain that that letter, which I have just read, refers only to the city of Edinburgh; my inquiries were confined to the city and county.

4072. *Chairman.*] So far as your inquiries have gone, do you come to the conclusion that those regulations have been systematically acted upon?—The result of my inquiries was, that that was an accurate statement.

4073. I believe that you have had an opportunity of seeing the evidence given here by Dr. M'Gee?—Yes.

4074. Does it appear to you that in that evidence there is any misapprehension expressed by Dr. M'Gee as to the Scotch law which you have the means of correcting?—Dr. M'Gee, in answer to Question 2641, read a petition from the Belfast Board of Guardians, which had been presented to the House of Commons. In that petition there is a statement to the effect that, in Scotland, dispensary or hospital medical aid afforded to any pauper of Irish birth, or to any member of his family, is deemed to be relief rendering such family removable. Now my impression of the law is, that that is not the case; that unless the hospital relief is obtained through the parish, it would not be held to be parochial relief. Parishes in Scotland are entitled to subscribe out of the poor's funds to hospitals, but a party obtaining admission into the hospital without application to the parochial board of any parish, I should apprehend would not be deemed to be receiving parochial relief.

4075. You are aware, probably, that some of the parishes in this country subscribe to hospitals a certain sum?—Yes.

4076. Do you know how it is in this country; do you suppose that everybody who goes into such a hospital, without communication with the guardians, is thereby rendered a pauper?—I should imagine not; but I do not know.

4077. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Does that statement in that petition fairly bear out the statement that any person going into the hospital is liable to be removed; is not the statement this, that every person sent by the parish to that hospital, which hospital is partly supported from the public funds, is thereby liable to be removed when a part of the expense is paid by the public?—The statement in the petition is very general.

4078. *Chairman.*] Will you give the very words of it?—"That in Scotland dispensary or hospital medical aid afforded to any pauper of Irish birth, or to any member of his family, is deemed to be relief, rendering such family instantly removable to Ireland;" but I should perhaps have coupled along with that a statement in Dr. M'Gee's own evidence further on, in answer to Question 2710, "I believe they" (that is, the sheriff and the justices) "interpret relief in a hospital or infirmary as poor relief, because the Scotch authorities have the power of subscribing to hospitals or infirmaries, and we complain that advantage has been taken of that which we think should not have been done, considering that they are reported to receive a large annual sum from the Consolidated Fund for medical charities." My impression was that this conveyed a meaning such as I have described, and I apprehend that it would not be parochial relief unless a pauper were sent to a hospital and paid for, while there, by the parish.

4079. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Does not the use of the word "pauper" in the petition imply as much as that the person would have been sent there by the parish?—If I am wrong in my impression, then I have no remark to make upon it; unquestionably if a person applies for medical relief to a parish, and is sent by that parish into a hospital, and paid for out of the parochial funds, that is relief.

4080. *Chairman.*] But only in that case you consider?—Only in that case.

4081. Mr. *Maguire.*] What do you mean by "paid for"; is that individual pauper paid for, or do you mean that the hospital to which he is sent is paid generally by a grant from the Poor-law fund?—I mean that the pauper is sent to the hospital, and received there by the managers either in consequence of a payment per day for that individual case, or in consequence of an agreement with the parish to allow them so much a year for the receipt of so many paupers.

4082. Sir *J. Young.*] Then an Irish family might be in receipt of hospital relief without being necessarily removable?—Clearly; if the party obtained admission into the hospital through any other means than the parochial authorities.

4083. Colonel *Blair.*] Do you mean that the pauper is removable in any case, where the funds of the parish contribute to the relief of that pauper?—Yes.

4084. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Many parties are receiving hospital relief by what

what are called subscribers' lines; they are admitted by the lines of charitable individuals who subscribe to those hospitals?—Yes.

4085. Of course such parties are not removed?—No.

4086. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are not some of these hospitals supported partly out of the Consolidated Fund, and from funds supplied by the Poor-law authorities?—I am not aware of any hospital in Scotland which receives any payment from the Consolidated Fund.

4087. How are they supported?—By private subscriptions, I think; some of them have had bequests made to them. They have some funds of their own in that way.

4088. Have they any assistance from any Poor-law fund?—The Parochial Boards, as I have already mentioned, are authorised by the Scotch Poor-law Act to subscribe to hospitals, if they think fit.

4089. Are they not required in some cases?—No.

4090. Supposing they do subscribe generally so much a year, then in case an Irish-born person applied to the workhouse for medical relief, and was sent to one of those hospitals, would he be liable to removal?—If a party applied to the parish for medical relief, and the parish sent him to the hospital, that would be parochial relief.

4091. Even though the assistance given by the parochial authorities to the hospital was a general subscription for the year, and not for the individual patient?—It is a matter of bargain between the Parochial Board and the hospital. The hospital is under no obligation to take any person without remuneration of some kind. In some cases the parochial boards subscribe an annual sum; they contract, in fact, with the managers of the hospital to give medical relief to those parties whom they send to them. In other cases, and I think now the more frequent case, they do not pay an annual sum, but they pay so much a day or so much a head for each case which they send to the hospital.

4092. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Take this case: supposing a person happens to meet with an accident, and is removed to the hospital, and that person turns out to be unable to pay for himself, what is done in that case; to what fund is he charged?—He is supported by the charity so long as the rules of the charity admit of it. Of course their rules vary.

4093. A person under those circumstances, being an Irish pauper, having met with an accident, would not be removable?—Not unless he becomes chargeable to the parish.

4094. Would he, in that case, become chargeable to the parish, being removed there in consequence of an accident, and not having the means of paying for himself?—Not unless placed there by the parochial authorities, or his residence afterwards being continued there by the parochial authorities.

4095. So that, in fact, a man cannot become removeable without the direct authority or action of the parochial parties?—No, I apprehend not.

4096. Mr. *Maguire.*] But he is liable to be removed, although the subscription paid by the parish authorities to that hospital is an annual one?—If he is sent to the hospital by the parish, and the hospital has contracted with the parish for an annual sum, of course he is included among the parties who receive benefit from it.

4097. Colonel *Blair.*] But in all cases, the hospital is not obliged to take any pauper upon the application of a parish where that contract is not made?—No, I apprehend not.

4098. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Do you know any hospitals for the sick in Scotland, that receive money from the Government?—I do not.

4099. Is there such a thing?—I believe not.

4100. Then the whole of the hospitals in Scotland, for the reception of the sick or those who meet with accidents, are entirely supported by voluntary contributions?—I think so; by charitable donations.

4101. *Chairman.*] Aided by bequests, I suppose?—Yes.

4102. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Then any parish in which there is an hospital so supported generally contracts with the governors of the hospital to receive such paupers in affliction as may happen to become chargeable, in order to cure them previously to their being otherwise disposed of?—They sometimes do; I do not know that I should be authorised to say that they do so generally; from my own knowledge, they not unfrequently do. The authorities of the hospital, unless some arrangement of that sort were made, would naturally say: "These parties

are paupers; you are bound to pay for medical relief to them; if you wish us to be the instrument of improving their health, you must pay the cost which the hospital is put to."

4103. Then any person sending a sick or maimed party from accident, to any of these hospitals, is liable to be charged so much for his cure and maintenance in the hospital?—Yes.

4104. *Chairman.*] And I understand you, that unless a person comes into one of those hospitals under the proceedings of the parochial authorities or their officers, in your opinion that person cannot be treated as a pauper, and removed upon that relief?—It is my opinion that he has not received parochial relief.

4105. Mr. *Maguire.*] You spoke of a notice in some part of the workhouse, informing people that if they applied for relief they were liable to be removed, if they had not a settlement; does that notice embrace persons who are suffering from accident, such as a broken leg or arm?—The terms of the notice, I understand, are simply to the effect that the reception of parochial relief by parties without settlement will make them liable to removal.

4106. Supposing a man has suffered from an accident, and applies to the parish authorities for relief, is he sufficiently apprised by that notice that if he ask for that relief, which must be either medical or surgical, he is liable to be removed in case he has not a settlement?—I think I can scarcely answer that question, because it depends upon whether the person who reads the notice is sufficiently intelligent to understand the law; no doubt a party is liable to be removed who receives medical relief.

4107. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Is there not a grant from the annual votes applied to the payment of medical men connected in some manner with the poor-law of Scotland; and to what class of medical men is that paid?—The sum of 10,000 *l.* per annum is paid for the improvement of medical relief in Scotland generally; medical relief was very defective in Scotland, and the object of this grant was to improve the condition of the poor in that respect, and certain conditions were annexed, which parishes were called upon to comply with before they participated in this grant. A minimum expenditure for each parish was fixed as one of the conditions which they were required to vouch before they participated in the grant. The effect of the grant has been to cause the expenditure over Scotland of a greatly larger sum in medical relief than previously had been expended.

4108. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] But this grant is given to the parochial Boards, not to the hospitals?—To the parochial Boards.

4109. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Have any of your hospitals Royal endowments of land or property?—No, I think not.

4110. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] This grant is in no manner paid by the parochial Boards towards those hospitals?—No, except so far as they make payments to hospitals for services done to paupers.

4111. Can they apply any part of the grant in that way?—The grant to each parish, I may observe, is a sum far smaller than the sum expended in the years of the distribution by that parish. The grant when paid to the parish, goes into the general funds of the parish.

4112. Mr. *Maguire.*] But not for the maintenance of unsettled paupers?—Paupers generally.

4113. The cost of unsettled paupers in the hospitals would not exceed the amount of that grant, would it?—That I have no means of knowing.

4114. So that the State does contribute towards the support of those unsettled paupers in hospitals?—I cannot answer that question.

4115. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Will you read the terms of the grant?—The history and the conditions of the grant will be found in the Third Annual Report of the Board of Supervision. There is a long minute of the Board of Supervision proposing a scheme of distribution, which was approved of by the Government; that is at page 4 of the Appendix, and the rules which, in the case of participating parishes, become obligatory under the conditions of the grant, are printed at page 18 of the Appendix to that Report. In page 4 of the Report itself there is a shorter statement, to which I can give the Committee a reference, or I can read it.

4116. Will you read it?—"With reference to the appropriation of the Parliamentary grant in aid of medical relief to the poor in Scotland, our attention has been especially directed to that description of relief. Having been required to suggest the best mode of apportioning that grant, we submitted to you our views

upon

upon this subject in our minute of 2d February 1848, which was honoured with your approval, and sanctioned by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury. We transmitted a copy of that minute to every parish, and called upon each parochial Board to resolve whether or not they would comply with the conditions therein annexed to participation in the grant; 494 parishes have resolved to comply with these conditions, and will therefore be entitled, when the necessary vouchers for their expenditure have been produced, to receive the shares of the grant apportioned to them respectively for the year ending 14th May 1849. From 240 parishes no intimation has yet been received; 146 parishes have for the present declined to comply with these conditions, and therefore will not be entitled to participate in the grant. We had contemplated the probability that some of the parishes, whose participation in the grant would involve increased expenditure from the parochial funds on medical relief, might decline to accept it. The primary object was to obtain adequate medical relief for the poor, but this could not be effected without requiring some of the parishes in which that relief was most defective to expend upon it from their own funds, in addition to their shares of the grant, a sum exceeding what they had hitherto expended for that purpose; and it appeared to us to be just and reasonable that each parish should be required to expend from its own funds a sum at least equal to the share of the grant apportioned to it."

4117. Mr. *Maguire.*] Then this grant is to parishes and not to hospitals?—This grant is to parishes and not to hospitals.

4118. And the object of the grant is for providing adequate medical relief for the poor?—To contribute towards doing so.

4119. Then if an unsettled pauper, suffering from an accident, applies to a parish, and in the workhouse of that parish receives relief, that pauper is liable to be removed?—Yes.

4120. Although the State contributes 10,000*l.* for the purpose of providing better relief for the poor?—Yes.

4121. *Chairman.*] The ground, I suppose, is that the parish funds are made contributory to that man's relief, and therefore he has become chargeable to the parish?—Yes. The object of the Parliamentary grant is to improve medical relief; the payment is to the general parochial funds of the parish.

4122. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Can you state the proportion of the grant to the total sum expended in medical relief by the parishes participating in it?—The whole sum expended in the year ending 14th May 1853, was 21,737*l.* 6*s.* 8¾*d.*

4123. Is that inclusive or exclusive of the grant?—That is inclusive of the grant; and perhaps I should add that, according to the census of 1851, the population of the parishes and combinations that have resolved to comply with the conditions is 2,301,970; and the population of the parishes that have not so resolved is 586,772. The sum expended on medical relief by the former was 19,577*l.* 5*s.* 6¼*d.*, equal to about 2·04 pence per head of the population; and that by the latter was 2,160*l.* 1*s.* 2½*d.*, equal to about ·88 penny per head of the population those parishes.

4124. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] The grant from the Government pays rather better than half the expense of those parishes which accept the share?—Yes; but the amount expended by those parishes is at a rate per head considerably more than double that expended by parishes which do not participate.

4125. Colonel *Blair.*] The hospitals, therefore, receive none of this Government aid, except through the parishes?—None.

4126. *Chairman.*] Is there any other point with regard to the law as stated in Dr. M'Gee's evidence, in which he appears to you to have fallen into error?—I understand from Dr. M'Gee's evidence, that he stated that there was no mode of appeal from an order of removal from Scotland to Ireland; he states that in answers to Question 2264, and in answer to Question 2844 he repeats it. This, so far as the Scotch law is concerned, I apprehend is a mistake; I am not aware of any impediment in the Scotch law to a parish or party obtaining redress, if an order of removal has been improperly procured.

4127. What is the remedy which the Scotch law affords?—The warrant would be liable to reduction if executed.

4128. Will you explain the term "reduction;" that, I believe, is a Scottish term?—It would be cancelled; it would be declared invalid from the commencement.

4129. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Would not the process be by suspension before execution?

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—Before execution the process would be suspension; that is, an injunction would be obtained (that is the English term, I think) against the execution of the warrant.

4130. *Chairman.*] From what court would that issue?—From the Court of Session. Then, if a pauper had been improperly removed, an action at law would lie for injury sustained. In the case of the man himself, he would have an action of damages for having been improperly removed; and, in the case of the unions in Ireland who were burthened with him, they would have an action to be relieved from the burthen unjustly imposed upon them.

4131. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Supposing that the Irish law stood, that the union would have no power to use their funds in bringing that action, would not such a remedy be virtually nugatory?—I have heard it stated that the Irish Unions have not the power so to expend their funds; but my object is to explain that the impediments do not arise from the existing law in Scotland.

4132. Is there any appeal to the Board of Supervision in Scotland as to the order to remove any individual?—There is not at present.

4133. Mr. *Maguire.*] You speak of suspension before execution, what do you mean by that; do you mean that there is notice given to the Irish Union that a pauper is about to be removed from a parish in Scotland to that union?—No.

4134. Then of what practical value is that power of suspension before removal?—I do not think it is of much practical value; it is only open, of course, to the pauper himself.

4135. *Chairman.*] Did you ever hear of a case of its being resorted to?—No.

4136. Colonel *Blair.*] Have not cases occurred, where a report has been made to the Board of Supervision in Scotland by the Poor-law Commissioners, complaining of illegal removals?—Yes. I think they have scarcely expressed an opinion that the removals were illegal, but they have reported cases to the Board of Supervision upon the statement of unions in Ireland, and requested the Board of Supervision to investigate, and to inform them whether the removal has been legal or not.

4137. And they have always attended to those communications, and have done so invariably?—Invariably.

4138. *Chairman.*] Have you inquired into some of the cases of removal cited by Dr. M'Gee?—I have.

4139. What is the first case to which you wish to draw the attention of the Committee?—After having seen Dr. M'Gee's evidence, I made inquiry with reference to the cases which he had cited of hardship or illegality. Some of those cases had been previously investigated by the Board of Supervision, and I have brought the documents with me which relate to them; other cases had not been reported to the Board of Supervision, and in those instances I made such inquiries as the time permitted in the places from which the removals were said to have taken place. In order of time, Michael M'Donald is the first case.

4140. What is the number of the question in which that case occurs?—No. 2754; that is in March 1848.

4141. What observation do you make in reference to that case?—The circumstances of that case were communicated to the Board of Supervision by Mr. Stanley, and the Board made inquiry into it. The result communicated to Mr. Stanley was to this effect. Mr. Smythe, my predecessor, enclosed a copy of a letter which he had received from the inspector of poor, and a copy of the judicial proceedings which took place, and also a statement of facts by the inspector of poor, and then he concludes in these terms: "The question as to the propriety of the removal appears to depend entirely upon the admissions made by the parties in Edinburgh, which are inconsistent with their statements upon oath made to Mr. Senior." Along with that case of M'Donald was the case of Mary Berry. The case of Mary Brady alluded to by Dr. M'Gee I have in vain endeavoured to discover; whether it is the case of Mary Berry or not, I cannot say. I was led to infer that it might be, from Dr. M'Gee saying that Mary Brady came over with Michael M'Donald.

4142. You mean the Mary Brady mentioned in answer to Question 2756?—Yes. Then there is the case of Thomas Tiernan, Question 2799, said to have been removed from Edinburgh to Belfast while under the influence of cholera. That case had not been reported to the Board of Supervision before; and the inspector of poor,

poor, upon my inquiring the other day, informed me that "a native of Ireland, named Thomas Tiernan, was, at his own request, forwarded to Belfast on the 30th of November 1848, or, rather, I should say, was furnished with the means of removing to Ireland. As he was not under any restraint, and made no complaint of ill-health, no medical certificate was got;" so that he appears to have requested the parochial authorities to send him.

4143. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Was there not an order of the Board of Supervision on that case, desiring that, whether a man was forwarded by his own desire or on warrant, still he should not be forwarded without an inspection by a medical man?—There was such an order in another case. This case of Tiernan has never been brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision.

4144. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Was that order prior to or subsequent to this case?—Prior. The first order was in general terms, that in the case of all persons removed to Ireland a medical certificate should be obtained; but a case occurred in March 1847, also prior to this case, where the inspector of Dundee had held that where a party desired to be removed, and money was merely furnished to him for the purpose of assisting him, he was not under any obligation to obtain a medical certificate. That case was brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision, and they cautioned the inspector, and informed him that he had acted wrongly.

4145. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Was the order given to that inspector solely, or was it a general rule or order communicated to all inspectors?—It was communicated at the time only to the inspector of that parish; but it was printed in the next succeeding report, the Second Report of the Board of Supervision, which must have been laid before Parliament in the spring of 1848.

4146. Mr. *Maguire.*] Does not Tiernan's case come immediately within that rule; is it not quite an analogous case?—Tiernan's case is very similar to this.

4147. And there was no medical inspection you say in Tiernan's case?—No.

4148. And you say there was no necessity, because he was sent at his own request, he having applied to go?—No; I merely read the inspector's reply to my letter the other day.

4149. Then the inspector's conduct in that case was quite contradictory to the order of the Board of Supervision?—Yes.

4150. *Chairman.*] Have you any other case to which you wish to call the attention of the Committee?—The next case is Isabella Charles, No. 1981; the date there is given in July 1850; that is one of Mr. Crawford's cases; I am taking them in order of date. The next case of Dr. M'Gee's is No. 2763; Catherine M'Ewan, from Haddington. That case was brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision by Mr. Stanley, and was inquired into at the time, and the result communicated to him. The Board of Supervision considered that the documents sent refuted the statement of the party.

4151. What document?—A copy of the statement made by the inspector of poor of Haddington, along with the copy of the petition and order of removal.

4152. Do you say that the Board of Supervision came to the conclusion that the statements of the pauper were unfounded?—Yes.

4153. Did they communicate that opinion to Mr. Stanley, or to the Board in in Dublin?—Mr. Smythe's letter merely enclosed those documents, and concluded with the following statement: "The Board of Supervision do not consider that any additional observations are necessary on their part."

4154. What is the next case?—John Stewart, No. 2839; that is the boy from Stranraer. That arose from a misapprehension, at least from a difficulty connected with the law at the time.

4155. Do you wish to make any observation with regard to that case?—No; I think that that is a case which would scarcely occur now.

4156. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Will you be kind enough to explain the statement which you have made, that the case could not arise now?—At that time, when a child was deserted by its parent, the impression with regard to the law was, that the child had himself become an object of parochial relief, and that the parish had to look to his settlement. The law, as now explained by the House of Lords, I apprehend to be, that where a child is an infant (of course I mean in the case of a child not emancipated), he has no settlement himself, but must follow his parent.

4157. Is it held in Scotland, that the child of a person committed to prison is deserted by the parent?—It was held in the case to which I allude, that a child whose father had been committed to prison was deserted by him.

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4158. Is that held by construction to be desertion in Scotland?—Yes.

4159. *Chairman.*] Do you wish to add anything to this case?—No, I think not.

4160. Will you proceed with the next?—The next case is that of Thomas Dyer, No. 2677.

4161. I understand that you are taking all Dr. M'Gee's cases together?—Yes.

4162. What do you say upon that case?—That was a case where the complaint was that the wife and three children had been left in Glasgow. That case has never been reported to the Board of Supervision, and I wrote to the inspector of Glasgow when it was brought under my notice the other day, and he informed me as follows: "A man of the above name seems to have been removed to Ireland on the 4th of June 1851, by me. He is represented as 41 years of age, a native of Antrim, and 18 months resident in Glasgow. So far from a wife and three children having been left in Glasgow, he is described as residing nowhere, and as being destitute and in starvation. No warrant was applied for, as his removal was in respect of voluntary arrangement made with himself." That is all the information which I have obtained.

4163. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the inspector's name?—Mr. Adamson.

4164. Colonel *Blair.*] In the statement of Dyer, it is said that he was not examined by a medical man or by a magistrate; do you think that wrong?—If it is the same person it appears that he was removed by voluntary arrangement, so that he would not be taken before a magistrate.

4165. Mr. *Maguire.*] Then should he not have been examined by a medical man, according to the order of the Board of Supervision?—I apprehend so.

4166. And he was not?—I do not know.

4167. Just as Thomas Tiernan was not examined by a medical man?—I am not aware whether he was or not.

4168. *Chairman.*] The party states that he was not?—Yes; but the inspector does not say so.

4169. Did you send to the inspector a copy of this statement in respect to Thomas Dyer?—I am not sure whether I sent the whole statement. I sent a reference by date and name, and particulars of that kind, so as to call his attention to it, and requested a statement of the whole circumstances.

4170. Can you say whether you sent a statement containing the allegation, "I was not examined by any medical man"?—I may have done so; I cannot be quite sure. I have not a copy of my letter here.

4171. Was Mr. Adamson, who is sitting here now, the gentleman to whom you sent it?—Yes.

4172. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is the inspector bound to keep that communication which you, in your official capacity, sent to him?—Certainly.

4173. Therefore Mr. Adamson ought to have the document?—He will have it, I have no doubt.

4174. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed to the next case?—The case of Mary M'Loughlin, removed from Edinburgh in January 1852.

4175. Where is that to be found?—No. 2698; that case was reported to the Board of Supervision at the time, and investigated; the allegation there was, that she was improperly removed from Scotland; that she had been suffering from venereal disease, and had been taken over before cured; I have here a copy of the medical certificate in the proceedings for her removal, which is to this effect: "Edinburgh, 7 January 1852. I hereby certify on soul and conscience, that the health of Mary M'Loughlin is such as to admit of her removal to Ireland."

4176. Is that signed by a medical man?—It is signed by David Brodie, M.D., and a copy of that certificate was sent by Mr. Smythe to Mr. Stanley in Dublin.

4177. Have you anything to add with respect to that case?—I made enquiry of the inspector who takes charge of the removals, Mr. Greig, to whom I have referred before, with reference to the details of the case, and he informed me that this woman was admitted, not to the infirmary, but to the Lock Hospital, and that she did not obtain admission to the Lock Hospital through the parochial Board. The practice at that time was for the hospital to give gratuitous treatment for five weeks, in respect of an annual sum paid by the parochial Board; but if a pauper patient required to be there longer than five weeks, notice was given to the parochial authorities, and they made payment from that date. At present,

present, the parochial Board do not subscribe to the Lock Hospital, but they pay 9*d.* a day from the date of admission of patients sent by them.

4178. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is a pauper's settlement liable to be broken during the five weeks, if sent by the parish authorities to the hospital?—If a person is admitted by an order of the parochial Board; but in this case the person was not so admitted.

4179. Would a pauper's settlement be broken during the five weeks, if the pauper did not continue in the Lock Hospital longer than the five weeks?—Clearly, if the parish subscribed on that condition, and had applied for the admission of the party.

4180. *Chairman.*] But only in that case?—Only in that case.

4181. Mr. *Dunlop.*] You say the settlement would be broken; you mean that there would be an interruption of the residence?—Yes.

4182. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—The next case is Rose Ann Cooney, No. 2667; that is a case which was not reported to the Board of Supervision. I wrote to Mr. Adamson, the inspector of Glasgow; perhaps as he is here he had better give the details of that case.

4183. What is the next case?—The next case is No. 2821, Patrick Flanagan, removed from Perth, the case of a lunatic child. That case was brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision by the Poor-law Commissioners in Ireland, and the whole documents in the removal were transmitted; the complaint, the warrant, the certificate, and the evidence had been transmitted to Dublin, and copies of them were sent to the Board of Supervision, and the reply which I wrote from the Board of Supervision is to this effect, dated 26th May 1854: "I have had the honour to lay before the Board of Supervision for the relief of the poor in Scotland, your letter of the 16th instant, with enclosed extract from minutes of proceedings of the Board of Guardians of Belfast Union, and copies of documents therein referred to relative to the case of a boy named Patrick Flanagan, removed by sheriff substitute's order from Perth to Ireland, and I am directed to state, for the information of the Commissioners for administering the laws for relief of the poor in Ireland, that the proceedings in this case of removal appear to have been regular in point of form, and that a warrant of removal having been granted by the sheriff substitute, it is not subject to the review of the Board of Supervision. In these circumstances the Board do not feel entitled to express an opinion as to the legality of the removal. Warrants of removal, however, if improperly granted, are subject to the review of the supreme courts of law, and the Board are of opinion, that in the present case there are grounds which make it desirable that the sheriff substitute's decision should be submitted to review."

4184. Dr. M'Gee, of course, could not have received that letter when he gave his evidence here on the first of June?—No, I presume not.

4185. Will you proceed?—Then there is the case of Hannah and Catherine Clarke, No. 2778. These are two children, and of course it is apparent that I could make no inquiry with reference to those two children, removed at the ages of five and seven, and without the name of any parish. The only one of the children that could be found did not know from what part of Scotland they had been removed.

4186. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is the date stated, or are you aware of it?—The persons came into the workhouse at Belfast on the 7th or 8th of May 1849.

4187. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—Then there is the case of Susan Gallagher, No. 2716. I have made inquiry, and have not been able to learn anything concerning that case. I wrote to Glasgow, in which, the Committee are aware, there are several parishes. I wrote to the parish that I thought it most likely in each of these cases the party might have been removed from, and I requested the inspector, if he knew nothing of the case, to hand it over to his brethren. In that case I could get no information from any of the inspectors in Glasgow.

4188. Are there any particulars given in the statement of Susan Gallagher, herself, as to the parish?—No.

4189. Colonel *Blair.*] Concerning that case it is stated, that subsequently to her coming to Belfast she worked nine years in the parish of Gorbals?—I think it scarcely says Gorbals.

4190. "Her mother kept a shop in the main street of Gorbals"?—Yes, I wrote to Gorbals. She says she "lived with her mother until her death, about 2½ years

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2½ years after the death of her father; her mother kept a shop in the main street of Gorbals." Now that must have been a great number of years ago; however, I wrote to the inspector of Gorbals, and he wrote to me that he knew nothing of the case; he states, "Having looked over all our records, I can see nothing of that case, and from recollection I can remember no such party."

4191. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—Hugh Trainor, No. 2728, and in that case I have been unable to find any trace of the party. The same with reference to the case of Gardner, No. 2807. I wrote in each of those cases to Glasgow, and my letter has been brought under the observation of each of the inspectors, namely, of the Barony, Govan, Gorbals, and the City; and the result is, that none of the parishes know anything of the party.

4192. What is the next case?—Those are the whole of Dr. M'Gee's cases, I think.

4193. Have you any other cases which have been spoken to before this Committee?—I think those which I have mentioned are the whole of the Scotch cases brought before the Committee by Dr. M'Gee.

4194. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] With reference to the last two cases named by you, of Trainor and Gardner, upon which no information could be got, is it your impression that the statement of the paupers was correct or incorrect, seeing that the inspectors of the various parishes of what I may call the Glasgow Union knew nothing about the cases?—I think the probability is, that the persons in Ireland either stated what they knew to be untrue, or gave such inaccurate information as rendered it impossible to trace them out, either from ignorance or some other cause.

4195. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Is there a regular account kept of every shipment, and when they are ordered to be sent home to their place is a regular account kept of it in the parish book?—Yes, and the result of each case.

4196. And it never fails to be correctly entered?—Of course it is subject to such errors as must creep into all official matters; but from the opportunities of observation I have had from correspondence with the officials in Glasgow, I have no doubt that the parochial documents are well kept there.

4197. *Chairman.*] Is it the well-understood duty of the inspector to enter every name?—Exactly.

4198. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Every removal costs the parish so much money?—Yes.

4199. The expenditure of that money must be put down, and for what purpose?—Clearly.

4200. In that case, every pauper removal costing the parish a sum of money, the expenditure and the history of the case are entered in the books?—It necessarily must be so.

4201. Then those names not being found in that register by the parish, the natural inference is that the party making the statement has made a statement in error?—I think so.

4202. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you think that officials are so infallible that they never make an error?—I do not imagine that any officials are infallible; but I have reason to know that the officials in Glasgow are efficient, and I should think that their books would form a *primâ facie* case against a statement which they did not bear out.

4203. Would you say that in no case the name of a pauper, transmitted either by voluntary arrangement or compulsorily, is omitted from the books?—I should think it scarcely possible. Mr. Adamson will speak to the practice in Glasgow. I am not aware of it there; but in Edinburgh I ascertained that there is no attempt to remove any person without an order of the committee of the parochial Board. The name and the circumstances are submitted to a committee of the parochial Board, and it is upon their instructions that the inspector proceeds to remove.

4204. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] But, in fact, as each case of removal costs a certain sum of money, the inspector, so that his books may properly balance, must enter every case of removal?—Yes; it necessarily must be so.

4205. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is that sum entered in gross, or entered in detail?—I should think the books are very ill kept if it is not entered into detail; but Mr. Adamson, I am sure, will give the Committee information upon that point.

4206. *Chairman.*] Does your Board in Scotland, like ours in England, prescribe forms for keeping the books?—It does, to some extent.

4207. And

4207. And is it a portion of the form prescribed that the name of the party receiving relief is inserted?—Yes; the name of the party, and the amount given to him.

4208. And the date?—And the date.

4209. And other particulars?—Yes.

4210. But the name of the party at all events?—Yes.

4211. Mr. *Maguire.*] Whether sent by voluntary arrangement, or whether sent otherwise, are the names of all persons entered in the books?—All applications for relief must be entered: then if relief is refused, that result is stated; if relief is given, the amount is stated.

4212. As to removal by voluntary arrangement, is a case of that kind entered?—Necessarily.

4213. And the money given?—Yes; there can be no removal until there has been an application for relief.

4214. *Chairman.*] Your were proceeding, I think, to another class of cases?—There are three Dublin cases, I think, mentioned by Mr. Crawford and Mr. Cusack.

4215. What is the number of the first?—No. 1981: Isabella Charles.

4216. What observation do you wish to make upon that?—The date of that case is given as July 1850. I found upon communicating with the inspector that she was removed on the 8th of May 1849, the 24th of June 1850, and the 31st of July 1851; and the inspector in enclosing these particulars to me, informed me, "she first became chargeable here in December 1846; that she is a native of Kildare, in Ireland, and never gained a settlement in Scotland. She was removed to Ireland, and placed in the Athy Union, to which she belongs. She is silly, but gentle and quiet; and her mother, who is a pauper on the parish of Whittingham," (that is, in the county of Haddington), "colludes with the Irish union, because she receives from benevolent parties resident here, considerable sums on the ground of her daughter's condition."

4217. What inspector is that; who sent you that?—The assistant inspector in the law department of the city of Edinburgh. Of course the statement with reference to the Irish Union I know nothing about, and I have no doubt it is not the case; but I read it for the purpose of showing that the girl's mother is a pauper, and, according to the inspector's statement, trades upon this girl's condition. That case of Isabella Charles was not inquired into by the Board of Supervision; it was never brought under their notice till the other day.

4218. What is the next case?—Then there is the case of John Burgess, No. 1990.

4219. Mentioned also by Mr. Crawford?—Mentioned also by Mr. Crawford, having been removed from the parish of Barony (that is one of the Glasgow parishes) in July 1851. That case was brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision by Mr. Stanley, and this is the reply which was sent from the Board of Supervision: "Your letter, dated 29th of August 1851, with depositions as to a pauper, John Burgess, who had been removed from Glasgow to Belfast, has been submitted to the Board of Supervision, as also the reply of the inspector of the poor of the Barony parish of Glasgow to the inquiry instituted by this Board. I now enclose copy of that reply, and of deposition by the assistant inspector who removed the pauper to Ireland; also copy petition, and complaint, and warrant of removal, from which it appears that the removal was not illegal." I may be permitted to remark upon this case, that Mr. Crawford has fallen into an error with reference to the reply from the Board of Supervision. He states, if I recollect rightly, that the pauper's statement in Ireland was taken upon oath, and that they received, in answer to their communications, a statement by the parochial authorities, not on oath, forwarded by the Board of Supervision. That is a mistake. The documents sent to Ireland were a copy of the petition and warrant of removal, with the deposition emitted by Burgess before the justices; upon which the inspector remarks in writing at the time, that it will be observed that he has been guilty of perjury; and along with that copy of the petition was sent a deposition made on oath by the assistant inspector who carried through the removal. The statement made by the pauper in Scotland on oath, and the statement of the assistant inspector on oath, are opposed in their facts to the statement made on oath by the pauper in Ireland.

4220. Will you proceed to your next case?—The only other case, I think, of removal from Scotland mentioned in the evidence, is Mary Tagerty; that is mentioned by Mr. Cusack, No. 1899. I do not know whether it is a misprint in the

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copy of the evidence which I saw. Dundee is stated; it is mentioned along with English cases. I wrote to Dundee, in which there are two parishes, and the inspectors of both have searched their records, and they state that no such person had ever been removed from Dundee, and that they have no recollection of the case. There are no particulars given in the evidence. That exhausts, I think, the whole of the cases of Scotch removals alluded to by the witnesses.

4221. Is there any general observation which you wish to make as to the number and nature of the cases of removal which have been brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision by the Irish authorities?—I may mention, that in no case has the Board of Supervision shown any indisposition, quite the reverse, to inquire into cases of alleged illegality or hardship in removals to Ireland. The whole number of such cases brought under their notice from 1845, down to the present date, is 18; that is, there have been 18 complaints with reference to the removal of Irish born persons from Scotland; and there have been nine cases, I think, mentioned before this committee by gentlemen from Ireland, of which the Board of Supervision have not had previous intimation that a ground of complaint existed, making in all, 27 cases in which, up to this date, either through their own official correspondence or through the evidence laid before this Committee, so far as I am aware, an allegation of hardship or illegality has been made. The total number of removals to Ireland by warrant, from the beginning of 1846, (excluding the portion of 1845 subsequent to the passing of the 8th and 9th of Victoria,) down to the end of 1853, has been 5087; the number of voluntary removals has been 41,735, making a total of 46,822 removals under the statute to Ireland; and in 18 cases only has complaint been made to the Board of Supervision by the Irish authorities.

4222. Colonel *Blair.*] On those 18 cases being investigated by the Board of Supervision, how many of them have been proved to be cases of illegality?—The case of Patrick Flanagan, from Perth, the other day, is one in which the Board of Supervision expressed an opinion that they thought the decision of the sheriff-substitute questionable.

4223. Then in those years, from 1845 to 1854, there is only one case, and that is a questionable one, of illegality, and the Stranraer case of Stewart?—There was the Stranraer case. There was a case of the removal of a person of the name of Farmer, and a child named Carter, from Greenock, in March 1848, in which the Board of Supervision cautioned the inspector with reference to such cases in future. There was a case in February 1852 of the removal of two persons, Benjamin Bainham and Deborah Finucane, from Gorbals.

4224. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] They were removed to Londonderry?—Yes.

4225. I think it was in 1853?—Yes, 1853. In that case it was a voluntary removal, and the inspector had obtained a medical certificate, but did not effect the removal for 12 days afterwards, and the Board of Supervision intimated that they considered it improper; that if the party was not removed immediately after a medical certificate, another must be obtained recently before the removal takes place.

4226. Bainham, I believe, died within a very few days after his admission to the workhouse in Londonderry?—He did. There was a long inquiry into that case, and the result upon my mind was this, and I think the Board of Supervision came to the same conclusion (they transmitted the documents to Ireland, as was their usual practice): that it did not appear that any improper treatment had taken place on the passage of the party over to Ireland, but that the inspector had erred in not obtaining a medical certificate prior to taking him on board the vessel.

4227. There was a difference in that case between the statement of the pauper and the statement of the officers removing him; the pauper maintaining that it was his wish to be sent to Limerick, the inspector declaring that he wished to go to Londonderry?—Yes.

4228. Bainham, I believe, was 67 years of age, and a native of Limerick?—Yes; I have the whole papers here.

4229. *Chairman.*] Have you had an opportunity of referring to any of the cases mentioned by Mr. Gordon?—I have only had an opportunity of seeing Mr. Gordon's evidence since I came to town, and therefore I speak entirely from memory; I have no documents to refer to here. With that explanation, I should say that I have only heard the names of two of these cases before.

4230. What are they?—There is a boy named Stapleton, No. 3767.

4231. What

4231. What is the other?—The other is the case of Catto; a removal to Berwick, where an inquest was held, No. 3814. There was a communication to the Board of Supervision with regard to a boy named Stapleton, probably the same; not having any documents here, I of course speak with some degree of vagueness; but there was some communication from Ireland with reference to a boy named Stapleton, said to have been removed from Scotland to Ireland, and some relative in Ireland was desirous of discovering what had become of him. But we could obtain no information from Ireland with reference to the parish from which the removal was said to have taken place. It was in my predecessor's time. Communications were made to some of the large parishes, to Edinburgh and Glasgow, and no trace could be found of such a person having been removed.

4232. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you mean to assert that there was no such boy sent?—I cannot assert that; what I mean to say is this: that the information supplied to us was so indefinite, there being no parish named, that we could not hear anything of such a person.

4233. *Chairman.*] Do you say anything about Catto's case?—Catto's is a case of an Englishman removed from the city parish of Edinburgh to England; he died shortly after his arrival in the course of last winter. At the coroner's inquest, I believe, some of the parochial officials attended, and gave evidence, and the verdict of the jury contained a reflection upon the manner in which his removal had been effected. The parochial authorities of Berwick-upon-Tweed made a communication to the Board of Supervision with reference to it, and it is now in course of investigation.

4234. Mr. *Maguire.*] The Scotch officials attended?—So I understand.

4235. And gave evidence?—Yes.

4236. Do you remember the particular nature of their evidence; was it of an exculpatory character?—I think it was with reference to the facts of the man's history; I read the papers, but I should not like to speak with certainty of their contents; the papers were transmitted to the parochial Board of Edinburgh.

4237. *Chairman.*] It is still under investigation?—It is now under investigation.

4238. Colonel *Blair.*] With regard to the 27 acres before alluded to, which are complained of, 18 having been brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision, and nine having been stated to this Committee, how many of those cases have been proved to be illegal?—There has been no case, I think, proved to be illegal; there are cases in which the legality may be more or less questionable.

4239. Mr. *Dunlop.*] How many would be questionable out of the whole?—I am not quite sure.

4240. You mentioned three?—I think about three.

4241. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is there not another case upon which the Board of Supervision did not express an opinion, where certain forms were complied with, but as to the decision of the case itself they would not offer any opinion?—I think that the case of Patrick Flanagan was the only one.

4242. You say that there were 18 cases referred by the Poor-law authorities in Ireland to the Board of Supervision in Scotland; do you make that statement with the object of showing how admirably this law of removal works?—I make it for the purpose of making the Committee aware of the number of such complaints to the Board in Scotland which has the means of inquiring into improper conduct.

4243. What is the deduction which you form from the fewness of those cases; what impression do you wish to produce upon the minds of the Committee?—I have stated no opinion at all; I will do so if the Committee wish.

4244. What is the deduction which you seek to draw from the fact which you have given us of the few cases investigated by the Board of Supervision in Scotland, in consequence of communications from the Poor-law authorities in Ireland?—My object was to state the fact, and to leave the Committee to draw what inferences they pleased.

4245. Do you wish to make this impression upon the Committee, that the law has worked so admirably that there have been very few cases of complaint?—As I said before to the Honourable Member, I will state my opinion if I am asked to do so.

4246. Will you please to give an answer to the question which I have put to you? What deduction do you wish to draw from the fact of the fewness of those cases which have been officially investigated by the authorities in Scotland, in consequence

Walker, Esq. sequence of communications or complaints from the authorities in Ireland?—I should infer from the fact of 18 cases only having been brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision in the course of eight years, during which upwards of 46,000 removals have taken place, that the idea of continual and frequent hardship and illegality taking place has been very much exaggerated. I should have thought that if such constant hardship and illegality took place, the result would certainly have been that the Irish Poor-law authorities would have made the Board of Supervision acquainted with a greater number of cases.

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4247. Might not the infrequency of these complaints arise from an idea, erroneous or otherwise, on the part of the Board of Guardians in Ireland, that there was no great chance of obtaining redress?—If I am permitted, as my answer to that question I should like to read a communication which was made to the Board of Supervision very early, and the reply which they gave to it. In May 1848, Mr. Skillin, clerk to the relief committee at Belfast, addressed Mr. Smythe in these terms: "I beg to call your attention to the number of paupers who have been sent here from Scotland during the last nine months, about 1,000 of whom had no right whatever to be sent here, as they ought, in all justice, to have been sent to the nearest seaport to where they belong. In your published letter of the 29th of January 1846" (that is a circular to inspectors from the Board of Supervision), "on the removal of English and Irish paupers, it is stated, they should be conveyed to such port with which there is a regular communication as may, on a consideration of the whole circumstances, afford paupers the greatest facility and convenience for speedily arriving at their ultimate destination. Since the 11th of April last, there has been a list sent with every lot from Glasgow, and the following are some of the cases complained of. There have been 30 sent who should have been sent to Derry; 22 to Dublin, and 23 to Sligo. These should in all justice have been sent to the foregoing ports, as there is as regular a communication with them as with Belfast. Hoping you will immediately call the attention of the parochial Boards to this matter, as you are aware it places the paupers in a most afflicting condition, and costs our charity a very considerable expense,—I remain, dear Sir, your most obedient servant, *William Skillin*, Clerk to the Relief Committee." Mr. Smythe, the Secretary to the Board of Supervision, replied on the 12th of May 1848 as follows: "I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 8th May, in which you complain of the number of Irish paupers removed from Glasgow to Belfast, instead of to other ports in Ireland, which would afford to such paupers greater facilities of reaching their ultimate destination. The Board of Supervision is most anxious to see its instructions carried out, not only in letter but in spirit; both for the sake of preventing the hardship inflicted on paupers by their being landed at a port distant from their homes, and with a view to avoid imposing any undue burden upon a particular port. You will therefore be doing a great favour, if you will communicate to me any cases which occur of improper removals to Belfast, mentioning the names of the parties, and of the parishes in Scotland from which they have been removed. I shall thus be able at once to check the parochial officers, and prevent the recurrence of any such procedure. Glasgow is, as you are aware, the principal port of communication with Ireland, and it is from Glasgow that by far the greater proportion of Irish paupers, who are removed from Scotland are sent. I believe that the only direct communication between Glasgow and Ireland is with the three ports of Belfast, Dublin, and Londonderry; Belfast is the readiest and cheapest, and therefore holds out the greatest inducements for sending the paupers there; in addition to which, I believe that inspectors of the poor are frequently misled by incorrect statements made by the paupers, and not less frequently from their own defective topographical knowledge, and that they err from pure ignorance as to the locality of the pauper's destination. I beg again to assure you, that I shall at all times be ready to do what I can to remedy the evil complained of."

4248. *Chairman.*] Mr. Smythe wrote that letter on behalf of the Board of Supervision?—Yes; from that time to the present date no further communication has ever taken place.

4249. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] You stated that that gentleman was clerk to the Relief Committee?—Clerk to the Relief Committee in Belfast.

4250. Is that connected with the Poor-law in any way?—It is connected with the Relief Fund for the famine, I imagine.

4251. Then it was not a communication by the Poor-law authorities?—I have no means of knowing, but I imagine not.

4252. Mr.

4252. Mr. *Maguire.*] What connexion has that with the question which I asked you?—I show that an opportunity was taken of communicating with this gentleman in Ireland.

4253. Is that gentleman a poor-law official?—I imagine not. The only opportunity that the Board of Supervision had of communicating their wishes and their desires to regulate the conduct of parochial authorities with regard to removals, was this letter to which I have alluded; they took that opportunity of expressing their anxiety to have every information with regard to illegal or improper removals, and the offer which they made produced no results.

4254. By the nature of the answer which you have given to the question, you seem to have misrepresented what I said (of course unintentionally), or to have misconceived the meaning of my question. I say, might not the infrequency of these complaints arise from the idea, erroneous or otherwise, entertained by the Boards of Guardians, that redress was not easily obtained?—Of course I cannot speak as to what impressions Boards of Guardians may entertain. I, of course, desired to answer the question as the Honourable Member put it, but my object in reading that letter was to show that, if such an impression existed, the Board of Supervision were not to blame; for they took the only opportunity which they had of expressing their anxiety to redress any grievances and complaints, and no such complaints have been brought before them.

4255. Have you read the evidence given by all the witnesses; have you read that given by the Irish witnesses?—I think I have read all; but I am not quite sure.

4256. Then you perceive that they several times state that the Boards of Guardians in Ireland did not make remonstrances to the Poor-law authorities in Dublin, because they had given up all idea of being able to obtain redress?—I understood that to refer to legal redress, not to stopping the practice.

4257. Could you gather from the evidence given that the Boards of Guardians in Ireland were under the idea that illegal removals were practised, and that they endured what they considered, erroneously or otherwise, to be illegal, rather than make any application to the Poor-law authorities in Dublin, and that they abstained from doing so, from the idea that redress was not very easily obtained?—I do not recollect reading that.

4258. Mr. *Dunlop.*] In point of fact, have you had complaints from Ireland down to the present date?—We have.

4259. They have not ceased?—They have not ceased.

4260. But they are few. Have your Board ever neglected any representation which has been made them?—Not that I am aware of.

4261. The three ports in Ireland to which Irish paupers are chiefly transferred are Derry, Dublin, and Belfast?—Yes, I believe so.

4262. And from each of these three there have been cases of complaint?—Yes.

4263. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you mean to say that no paupers removed from Scotland go to any other ports in Ireland besides these three?—I understood the Honourable Member for Greenock to ask whether the greater number of paupers went from Scotland to those three ports; they are certainly not all; some of them go to Sligo.

4264. Might not some of the paupers landed at any one of these ports throw themselves upon other unions for support?—Probably they might.

4265. And might not the unions to which those paupers went consider that they were aggrieved, and that the original removal from Scotland was an illegal one?—They might entertain that opinion.

4266. If you saw in the evidence of a Poor-law guardian, either from Limerick, or from Cork, or from Waterford, that the guardians entertained no hope of obtaining redress, would not that in some way account for the infrequency of the remonstrances, or the infrequency of the communications with your Board in Scotland?—If that idea were entertained in Ireland, no doubt it would have considerable effect upon what the Boards of Guardians would do.

4267. My question merely referred to the entertaining of such an idea, be it erroneous or otherwise?—No doubt, if that idea were entertained, it would to a certain extent account for it.

4268. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Do you consider, from the conduct of the Board of Supervision towards the Poor-law Guardians of Ireland, that they have any reason to entertain such an idea?—Certainly not.

4269. In fact, every complaint which has been made by the Poor-law authorities

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in Ireland has been immediately attended to, and, so far as has been in the power of the Board of Supervision, been redressed?—Just so.

4270. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is it at the same time true that, even in cases where there appears to have been illegality, the Board of Supervision have no power of giving redress?—I think the result of the communications between the Irish authorities and the Board of Supervision has probably tended to bring before the Boards of Guardians the difficulties with regard to obtaining legal redress, by which I mean the rescinding of an order for a removal, or the return of a party to Scotland who had been taken to Ireland; but I think, at the same time, it must have made those Irish authorities, with whom the Board of Supervision have been in communication, aware that so far as the Board of Supervision had the means of preventing a recurrence of such cases, the necessary steps would be taken.

4271. Does it appear from the correspondence in any of those cases, that the Board of Supervision have any means of preventing the recurrence of a similar case of illegality to that which appears to have taken place in Perth, and which has been the subject of correspondence?—No; because that is a judicial order, and the Board of Supervision cannot review it.

4272. Therefore, in point of fact, the Board of Supervision have no means of preventing the recurrence of illegal removals, similar to those which have already taken place?—Not in such a case as that.

4273. Therefore, neither have the Boards of Guardians in Ireland the power of obtaining redress in the individual case, nor have the Board of Supervision the means of preventing the occurrence of new cases of the same description?—I would beg to make this remark; the Board of Supervision have the power of dismissing any inspector of poor who fails to perform his duty, or acts improperly; and if a removal were effected in consequence of the improper conduct of that official, the Board of Supervision would dismiss him; therefore they have an efficient power, I should say, to prevent the recurrence of any case of illegality or improper removal for which the inspector can be made properly accountable; but when a case is taken into a court of justice the parties are examined on oath, and the judge is called upon to pronounce a decision. If he pronounces a decision wrongly, there may be an illegal removal; in such a case as that, it is possible to imagine it; but of course the Board of Supervision are powerless in such a case.

4274. Does it not appear from your evidence, that the administrative body in Scotland, and the local parochial Boards of Scotland, both endeavouring to carry out the present law; nevertheless, cases of illegality, and great hardship and injury to the ratepayers in Ireland may and do occur, and may occur hereafter?—I have no doubt that occasionally cases of hardship take place to individuals. I am not aware of any portion of the law in which that can be guarded against. The poor-house test itself appears to me to imply the possibility of individual hardship, and that you must submit to what is inevitable; it may be hardly applied in particular cases.

4275. But the Committee are to understand, that in your opinion the provisions in the law which transfer Irish paupers from the places where they are destitute in Scotland, to a town in Ireland, with which very probably they may have had no previous connexion whatever, are upon the whole the most just and satisfactory that you can contemplate?—I think I have already said that I concur in some suggestions which have been made to this Committee by Sir John M'Neill, with reference to the improvement of the law of removal; but keeping that in view, I am of opinion that it would be juster and better that the law of removal should remain as it is, than that it should be repealed.

4276. Colonel *Blair.*] Can you state any case where communication having been made to the Board of Supervision from the Poor-law Commissioners of Ireland, the Board of Supervision have not immediately attended to that case, and where a second communication has been obliged to be made?—I am not aware of any.

4277. Of the 46,000 removals which you have mentioned as having taken place in a period of seven or eight years, there are only three cases of questionable illegality?—Yes, I think so.

4278. That is in the 41,000 cases voluntarily removed, and the 5,000 cases of removal by warrant?—Yes, so far as has been brought under the knowledge of the Board of Supervision.

4279. The Irish Poor-law Guardians have legal power to bring actions in cases of illegal removal, have they not?—It has been stated that the Irish law prevents them

them doing that effectually; of course, I do not pretend to offer an opinion upon that, but there is no impediment in the Scotch law to their obtaining redress, both so far as returning the party to Scotland, and obtaining pecuniary redress for the injury which may have been inflicted by the improper act.

4280. I understood you to say to the Honourable Member for Carlow, that you think that the law might be improved; that some additional safeguards might be given in the removal of paupers, but that you object to the law of removal being done away with?—Yes.

4281. Mr. *Maguire.*] You say that the Board of Supervision has the power of dismissing an inspector?—Yes.

4282. Then of course, when a charge is brought against an inspector, it is the inspector's interest to try and free himself from it?—Yes.

4283. And then the balance of testimony must be between the pauper who is making the charge, and the inspector who is charged?—If the inspector is the only witness; but I am not aware of any such case.

4284. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] May not the feeling which the Honourable Member for Dungarvon has referred to, of Irish Boards of Guardians finding themselves without redress, have arisen from communication with England rather than with Scotland?—I am aware that they have gone one step further, in trying to obtain redress from England, than they have done with regard to Scotland, and possibly it may be so.

4285. *Chairman.*] What other step have they taken?—I have understood that the Irish Poor-law authorities have endeavoured to raise an appeal in this country; there has been no such attempt in Scotland.

4286. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Do you remember so much of Dr. M'Gee's evidence as to say that he rather claims that the modifications in the manner of carrying out the removals were adopted by the Board of Supervision in Scotland, in consequence of complaints sent from Belfast?—Yes.

4287. And therefore, so far they were satisfied that their complaints had been of use?—Dr. M'Gee was mistaken; he was under that impression; but the rules of the Board of Supervision were issued previous to those complaints.

4288. He was mistaken, so far as the issue of any rules went; but in what he stated as to directions to individual inspectors, which were afterwards transferred to your books, and so made known to all the inspectors of Scotland, he was correct?—Yes.

4289. Mr. *Maguire.*] You say that you are aware that the authorities in Ireland have gone a step further in respect of removals from England?—I have understood so.

4290. Have they prosecuted an appeal, and have you read what was the result of that appeal?—Yes; I have understood that it was an attempt only, and that it failed.

4291. Is it not very probable, then, that Boards of Guardians in Ireland may confound removals from England and removals from Scotland?—It is possible.

4292. And therefore, that the idea to which I alluded, whether erroneous or otherwise, may have existed in the minds of Boards of Guardians in Ireland?—It is possible.

4293. And that would account in some way for the infrequency of the remonstrances from Boards of Guardians in Ireland to the authorities in Dublin?—I would observe, that I do not think there is much difference from 1845 downwards, with regard to the number of complaints made; that ought to be some test of it. I find that there were no complaints in 1845, 1846, or 1847; in 1848 there were three complaints made to the Board of Supervision from Ireland; in 1849, one; in 1850, four; in 1851, five; in 1852, one; in 1853, two; and in 1854, one; so that they have not become less frequent than they were in the earlier years.

4294. Will you have the kindness to explain distinctly what are voluntary removals; in what manner they are effected?—There is a difference of practice, I believe. The statute provides no particular mode in which they are to be effected. The Board of Supervision requires that there shall be a medical certificate obtained. In some cases, I believe the money is handed to the paupers, where they think they can trust them; in other cases the paupers are seen on board a vessel, and the fare paid.

4295. In case the pauper does not consent to go of his own accord, he is compelled to go, is he not?—Then it becomes a matter of inquiry before the justices.

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4296. So that those voluntary removals do not always represent free will upon the part of the person removed?—Not altogether. I believe that a great number of the persons removed to Ireland are actually cases where the parties come to the parochial authorities and ask for nothing else but to be transmitted; and they wish for their assistance to go over to Ireland; but of course there are a large number of parties who know very well that if they do not go willingly they will be made to go.

4297. But it is the fact that many persons are anxious to get back to Ireland?—I believe that there are such cases. I think it is stated in some of those papers which I have read to-day.

4298. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to the cases of alleged grievance or illegality into which inquiry has been made, have those inquiries usually been made by an officer competent to administer an oath?—The ordinary course of the Board of Supervision, when a complaint is made against an officer, is to allow him an opportunity of making his observations upon it. If it seems necessary to go further, they sometimes send the documents and the whole case to the parochial Board, and request them to investigate it, and in some of those cases I see that the parochial Board took evidence upon oath before a magistrate.

4299. Are the parochial Board in Scotland legally entitled to administer an oath?—No; the party has to make a declaration on oath before a magistrate.

4300. You have a general impression that the statements of Irish paupers with reference to their previous residence cannot be altogether relied upon?—I should make that observation with regard to Scotch paupers as well as Irish. I think so.

4301. Might not the adoption of the suggestion made by Sir John M'Neill, namely, that paupers, instead of being sent to Irish ports, should be sent to the places of their supposed birth, lead to hardships and inconveniences of a new description, namely, to their being sent to places in Ireland with which they had, in point of fact, no real connexion, if you had no other means than the statement of the pauper himself by which to guide you in the removal?—No doubt it might be so. I believe that some of the removals which have been complained of, to ports not the nearest to the pauper's original place of residence, have been made at the pauper's own request, and upon his mis-statement; I believe that has been found to be so.

4302. In cases like many of those which have been made the subject of inquiry, where the pauper has left a place in Ireland at a very early period, such as at the age of six months, or in early childhood, it is very probable that the pauper himself may have no certain knowledge of the place in Ireland to which he should go?—Very probable.

4303. So that the suggestion which has been made for altering the law of removal would probably give rise to complaints from new quarters of a different description from those which have been made previously?—Assuming that there are good grounds for the complaints which have been made upon that point, I think the probability is that a much less numerous body of complaints could be made afterwards, for this reason; that at present all that the justices are required to order in their warrant is the removal of the party to Ireland. They therefore have no necessity to inquire, and in many cases I believe do not inquire, into the particulars of the man's birth in Ireland; but if the warrant should require them to specify where he is to go to, it would involve a more careful inquiry, and they might have hesitation in many cases whether they should grant the warrant.

4304. Then you think that it would be an advantage if any change in the law or any rules upon this subject were to diminish the number of removals to Ireland?—No; I am speaking in reference to the question of the number of persons who would be taken to a wrong place in Ireland. I say that I think that would be avoided under the proposition which is made, because the justices would be required to make some finding in reference to the proper place.

4305. Would you propose that they should institute an inquiry in Ireland?—No.

4306. Can you suggest anything beyond the statement of the pauper himself?—A pauper is brought before the justices upon the complaint of the inspector. The inspector is bound to prove his case. At present he is only required to prove that the party was born in Ireland. If he were required to prove with regard to the removal, the particular place from which he originally came, it would lie upon him to do it.

4307. *Chairman.*]

4307. *Chairman.*] He must satisfy the justices by evidence, before the justices could make an order?—He must.

4308. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Supposing a party about to be removed to Ireland objected to be removed, and would not state to what parish he belonged, with such a pauper how could the matter be arranged?—That is one of the difficulties, I think, of a legislative enactment. It is difficult to foresee the whole results of the change; but it would, of course, be necessary to have some mode of compelling a party, and of punishing him when he is obstinate.

4309. If he stated a wrong parish, what would be the result?—There is a remedy now in the Scotch Poor-law for a Scotchman who is obstinate, in reference to that matter.

4310. In keeping the Poor-law books, is there one uniform mode in which they are kept in all parishes?—In their general principles it is uniform. I cannot say that it is quite uniform throughout the whole of Scotland.

4311. Is there any form determined by the Board of Supervision in which the books shall be kept?—They have pointed out forms, but having to deal with inspectors all over the country of such various acquirements, it is very difficult to enforce the strict keeping of the books in any particular form by such a vast number of people. Some of them are very intelligent men, but not men of great literary education.

4312. Have the Board of Supervision ever had before them the books kept in parishes?—Frequently; and the Board of Supervision have a visiting officer who goes round the districts of the country in rotation, and examines minutely into the manner in which parochial business is transacted, and he reports to the Board.

4313. Is there any form laid down by the Board of Supervision, in which all cases shall be entered regularly that come before the parochial Board?—There is.

4314. Is it the case that, in all the large manufacturing towns and parishes, the books generally which have come before you are in a form that is clear and distinct, and that hardly a mistake can arise in them when any pauper requires relief?—I should apprehend that there could be no doubt about that. I have not myself had an opportunity of seeing a great number of those books, and the books which I have seen have generally been those which, having been defective, have been ordered up on the report of the visiting officer. But upon his authority, which is perfectly trustworthy, I know that in all the large towns and populous parishes the books are kept in accordance with our rules. As a general rule, that is no doubt the case.

4315. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] By whom are the accounts audited?—There is no audit by the central Board.

4316. By whom then is the audit?—The ratepayers have it in their own hands, if there is a dispute. I believe the parochial Boards generally have the accounts audited by some professional person. If any question arises as to the accuracy of the accounts, it is a question between the ratepayers and the parochial Board.

4317. *Chairman.*] Is there no provision in your law for auditors?—No.

4318. Mr. *Maguire.*] With reference to the law of settlement, is the settlement of a Scotch woman, who marries an Irishman without a settlement, suspended?—A Scotch woman marrying an Irishman, and residing with him in Scotland, would be treated as a part of his family; she would be removable with him to Ireland, the law declaring that you have no right to separate the parties. If her husband left her, and she became herself an object of parochial relief, her own settlement would avail her. I apprehend that that is the law.

4319. In case her husband died without a settlement, he being an Irishman and she being a Scotchwoman, how would she be circumstanced then; would she lose her settlement in consequence of his having no settlement?—No; the settlement of her husband being of no avail to her, her own original maiden settlement, or a settlement acquired subsequent to the death of her husband, by residence, is open to her.

4320. But if her husband becomes a pauper without having a settlement, she should be removed with the husband, if the husband is removed?—Yes.

Mr. *Ebenezer Adamson*, called in; and Examined.

4321. *Chairman.*] WHAT office do you hold in connexion with the poor-law at Glasgow?—Inspector of the Poor.

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4322. For the whole of Glasgow?—Only for the city parish of Glasgow.

4323. Each parish has its own inspector, I presume?—Each parish has its own.

4324. How long have you held that situation?—Three and a-half years.

4325. Have you been in any situation connected with the poor-law before that time?—I was a union clerk in England before that time.

4326. In what union?—The Salford Union, at Manchester; and, prior to that, the Hayfield Union, in Derbyshire. I have been 26 years connected with the poor-law.

4327. You are aware of the object of the inquiry of this Committee?—I am.

4328. It has been suggested here that it would be expedient to repeal the existing law of removal of Irish paupers from Scotland; what is your opinion upon that point?—My opinion is, that it would be detrimental to the interests of the Scotch parishes if the law was repealed.

4329. Upon what grounds do you arrive at that conclusion?—Because the lower class of Irish generally are more pauperised than the Scotch; they make more applications for relief from the same number of inhabitants, and they are less provident with the means which they have. I have found families frequently applying for relief upon three or four days' illness, or a sprained foot or arm, who have been on good wages up to the Saturday night preceding.

4330. What do you infer from that?—That they are less provident, and would be a greater burthen upon the parishes than the Scotch themselves.

4331. Are the Committee to understand that, in your opinion, that improvidence characterises them as a class?—It does.

4332. What proportion of the population of Glasgow do the Irish form?—Eighteen per cent.

4333. What proportion of the pauperism do they form?—Twenty-five per cent.

4334. Have you any tables prepared by yourself, illustrative of that subject?—The population of Glasgow, as stated in the Census for 1851, is 358,951; the number of Irish is 62,925. This includes persons born in Ireland, not the children of Irish parents born in Scotland.

4335. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is this for the parish of Glasgow?—It includes the whole four parishes; it includes persons born in Ireland, but not the children of Irish parents, which children may have been born in Scotland; we put them down as Scotch.

4336. Colonel *Blair.*] What you call dependents in Scotland?—Yes.

4337. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you any means of knowing the number of those whom you call Scotch, but who yet are the descendants of Irish people?—I have no means; I can only approximate to it.

4338. What number do you give as an approximation?—I think you might multiply it by three; you might allow a man, his wife, and one child.

4339. What do you give as the gross number of the descendants of Irish in Glasgow?—I should not like to say.

4340. Will you come as near to it as you can; would you say 20,000, 30,000, or what number?—Perhaps it might be 20,000.

4341. Colonel *Blair.*] But you have no returns to show?—No; I have no data on which to form a conclusion.

4342. *Chairman.*] That is a mere conjecture?—Yes.

4343. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you give 20,000 as your conjecture?—I do.

4344. *Chairman.*] What do you state as the proportion of pauperism?—Twenty-five per cent.

4345. Have you any tables to show that?—I have. We admitted into our poorhouse during last year 4,638 paupers; of those 1,045 were Irish. On the out-door roll we had 3,664 at the close of the year, of which 870 were Irish; and there had passed through the roll during the previous six months 5,000 paupers, of whom 1,250 were Irish. That is up to the end of 1853. I have not had time, owing to my illness, to calculate it for this year, but the numbers are about the same.

4346. Colonel *Blair.*] That makes an average of 25 per cent.?—Yes.

4347. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] And that year was one of good trade and plenty of employment?—1853 was very good; it is rather dull now. Then in 1851 we had 10,000 applications for relief, of which 3,673 were Irish. In 1852, 9,159, of which 3,359 were Irish. In 1853 we had 7,656 applications for relief, of which

3,035 were Irish. We make up our accounts to the 31st of May; and for this year we had 6,901 applications, of which 2,296 were Irish. Then in applications for medical relief we had 7,899 during the last year, of which 2,465 were Irish. The cases sent to the Royal Infirmary in the year 1851 were 657, of which 302 were Irish.

4348. *Chairman.*] That is, at the cost of the parish?—At the cost of the parish. In 1852, we had 1,052 sent to the infirmary, of which 579 were Irish; in 1853, we had 959, of which 516 were Irish; and this year 757, of which 333 were Irish. During the four years, 3,425 were sent to the infirmary, of which 1,730, or more than half, were Irish.

4349. Mr. *Dunlop.*] How do you account for the much larger proportion of Irish sent to the infirmary than those on the roll?—We do not send any to the infirmary but those who have some infectious disease; all others we treat in the sick wards of the poorhouse; but if they have either fever or smallpox, or anything of an infectious nature, we send them to the infirmary to keep the house clear.

4350. Then are these diseases much more frequent among the Irish population?—These facts prove it.

4351. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are they sent to the infirmary for surgical treatment?—No. These are chiefly fever or smallpox cases. I do not recollect having sent a surgery case; we should take a surgical case into the Town's Hospital, into the poor's-house, because it would not be an infectious disease, and we should treat it by our own surgeons. We pay the infirmary 1 *l.* for each case sent.

4352. Mr. *Dunlop.*] To what do you attribute the great prevalence of these infectious diseases, fever and so on, among the Irish population, compared with the other population?—To the crowded houses in which they live, and the want of cleanliness. At first, when I found it out, I was alarmed myself, and I went to see a great number of the houses, both in the day-time and in the night. In the night, or rather the morning of the 13th of September 1852, I visited a locality of the city where a part of them reside, and I was not at all surprised at the state of fever and infectious disease which prevailed. I visited one house, in Jefferies' Close, occupied by John Mathers, 12 feet by 14, rather a room than a house, in which there were 14 inmates. I visited these places between one and three o'clock in the morning, that I might see how they were when they had retired to rest, because when I go in the day-time they say that such a person has only just called in, and does not belong to the house. In another, Patrick Ready's room, 12 feet by 12, there were 23 inmates, six in one bed. In Patrick Jesse's, there were 18 inmates; I did not take the dimensions of that room. In Donald Carry's room, 8 feet by 12, there were 12 inmates. In Hugh Mahon's, 12 feet by 6, there were 13 inmates, and four had nothing to cover them; they were as naked as when they were born. In Terence Malarchy's room, 14 feet by 10, there were 12 inmates. In Patrick Barratt's room, 15 feet by 7, there were 18 inmates. In Widow Gallacher's room, 12 feet by 9, there were nine inmates; and in Matilda Cairney's room, 12 feet by 8, there were 10 inmates.

4353. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Were they male or female?—Both males and females.

4354. All together?—All together.

4355. What age do you suppose they were?—They were of all ages; some were children, and some grown up persons; the four that were lying in bed without any covering were grown up men.

4356. What employment generally have those people?—A great many of the women are hawkers of fish, and fruit in the fruit season; the men are labourers; some work about the quays, and some serve masons as daily labourers.

4357. Are you aware what the wages of a day labourer, so employed, in Glasgow are?—They vary from 2 *s.* to 2 *s.* 6 *d.*, and some are paid by the hour; those about the quays are paid by the hour; sometimes they make very good wages, and sometimes not very good; it depends upon the work.

4358. Some days they make very good wages when work is plentiful?—Yes.

4359. And on other days, when it is not so plentiful, they do not make such good wages?—They do not.

4360. But the average wages of the men would be what?—Very good; from 12 *s.* to 14 *s.* or 15 *s.* a week.

4361. These people earning wages of that description are afforded sufficient

means to live in a better house than you found them in?—I know a good many that do make those wages. A great many of our policemen and watchmen do not get above 15*s.* a week; the carters employed by respectable firms do not get more, and I know that they are pretty comfortable.

4362. A Scotchman having wages of 2*s.* a day would find a better place to live in, would he not, taking them generally speaking?—Generally speaking, they would; but those who reside in low localities, and are mixed up with this class which I have been describing, just fall into their habits; they lose their spirit of independence and self-support, and rather sink themselves than raise the others.

4363. The fact is, that the mass of indolence and sloth carries down the Scotchmen to the same level?—It does.

4364. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did you say anything about indolence or sloth?—I did not use the words.

4365. *Chairman.*] You described a number of them as hard working men, in fact; you spoke of them as in employment of different kinds?—I spoke of them as working men; I was speaking merely of their habits of improvidence.

4366. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Perhaps I used a wrong term in saying indolence or sloth?—The word "improvident," was the word which I used.

4367. That is the word which I ought to have used; but that improvidence is not at all ameliorated by their mixing with the Scotch and being shown a better example; but the reverse effect takes place?—It does.

4368. That improvidence tends to bring down the Scotch, moving in the same class, to the same level in which you describe the Irish to be found?—Exactly so.

4369. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Is there any large proportion of the Irish population in Glasgow living in that way, or is it a comparatively small number that it refers to?—They inhabit particular localities of the town; there are some splendid examples of a contrary character; I do not wish to condemn them all; I am speaking of the mass.

4370. To what portion of the whole does the description which you give apply?—The great bulk of the lower class; they are just on the verge of pauperism, and the least sickness throws them on our books.

4371. *Chairman.*] Owing to that improvidence which you speak of?—Owing to that improvidence. The very last case which I had before coming here was a case where a bootcloser had been getting good wages; his wife came to me and said that she wanted relief; that her husband had left her; and upon inquiry, I found he had not been gone 24 hours; and they had nothing to eat, and very little to put on.

4372. You have described that improvidence as the general characteristic of the whole of the Irish?—Yes, of the lower class.

4373. Those in work as well as others?—Yes.

4374. Mr. *Maguire.*] Does not that improvidence arise from drunken habits?—It does.

4375. Is your experience of the Scotch the same?—They are just as fond of drink as the Irish.

4376. And that drunkenness produces improvidence; in the one case it would be just as likely to produce it as in the other?—I say they just bring them down to the same level.

4377. Do you think that it was the Irish who taught the Scotch to drink?—I was not there at the time; I only speak of what I find now.

4378. May I ask your age?—Fifty-three.

4379. You must have had some experience of Glasgow; before there was a very large migration to Scotland of Irish people, were the Scotch very much given to drink?—I cannot speak of it from my personal observation; I have only been three and a half years in Scotland.

4380. In what part of Scotland have you been?—Glasgow.

4381. Before that very large increase of population through the Irish accession, was not a certain class in Scotland very much addicted to drinking?—I cannot speak to it from personal knowledge; I was not in Scotland at the time.

4382. At present you know that the Scotch are quite as much addicted to drunkenness as the Irish?—They are addicted to drunkenness, no doubt.

4383. And drunkenness will always cause improvidence?—It does.

4384. Inasmuch as it consumes the weekly means of the family?—Yes.

4385. Generally

4385. Generallys peaking, will not the working population go to the very poorest district?—Yes; the less means they have to live, the poorer they must be accommodated.

4386. Do people earning from 10*s.* to 15*s.* a week generally go to a poor locality?—Some do, and some do not.

4387. Might you not attribute some blame to the owners of property in Glasgow for not establishing sanitary regulations?—I do not know how far they could do that.

4388. Could not they insist on cleanliness?—I have seen places cleaned in the morning, as clean as you could wish to see them for working families, and I have gone back again in the course of the day, and they have been as bad again.

4389. By whom were they cleaned in the morning?—By the owners of the property, who were compelled to do so by the sanitary committee.

4390. Is it the general rule that the owners of properties are so careful in the morning?—I am speaking of the time when they were compelled to do it for particular cases which came under my knowledge.

4391. Is there anything extraordinary in the fact that the persons who live by what may be called rough labour, live in the very poorest localities; that is not very astonishing, is it?—It is not astonishing that they should live in poor localities; I am speaking of the improvidence of the parties.

4392. But you do not bring any charge of want of industry against them?—I should be very sorry to do it.

4393. *Chairman.*] Many of them are amongst your hardest working men?—Yes; I should consider that it was libelling their character if I said that they were not industrious; I should be very sorry to do it; I know some, than whom there are not harder working people in the world, or better behaved people.

4394. Mr. *Maguire.*] They are ready to undertake any labour, however rough, or however seemingly mean it may be, are they not?—Yes; I should be very sorry to say anything to the contrary.

4395. And you do not bring forward the fact of their being employed as hawkers as disparaging?—Not at all; a great many of the women are so employed.

4396. That is only one of their means of livelihood?—That is only one of their means.

4397. How are the Irish generally employed in Glasgow?—The same as the Scotch; they are employed in all kinds of work like the Scotch; labouring work.

4398. Would you not think that a sprained foot would be a sufficient justification for a working man to apply for parochial relief?—Yes, if it continued for any length of time; but I think that a man with good wages ought not to come on the parish the week after he has happened to get a sprained foot; I think that he ought to have been a little beforehand, to have kept him during that time.

4399. Colonel *Blair.*] You think that the Irish poor are more ready to come upon the parish than the Scotch poor are?—That is my decided impression.

4400. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are the returns which you have laid before this Committee, with reference to the number of inhabitants of Glasgow taken from the last census?—Yes.

4401. Do not the Scotch in Glasgow include persons of all classes, from the very richest to the very poorest?—Of course they do.

4402. Whereas the Irish are, with comparatively few exceptions, exclusively of the poorest class?—The great bulk of them.

4403. Therefore, supposing them upon equal terms in other respects, is it not to be expected that the proportion of pauperism should be greater amongst the Irish than amongst the Scotch?—Undoubtedly; that is the very thing which I was pointing out, that the burden which it throws upon Glasgow in respect of the Scotch poor we can remedy, but if we could not remove the Irish we should have to bear it.

4404. You brought forward those returns with the impression upon your mind that they showed that the Irish were more improvident than the Scotch?—Yes.

4405. Having regard to the fact that a very large number of the population of Glasgow are above the working class, and that a very small number of the Irish are above the working class, does it appear to you that that difference in the percentage of pauperism which you have mentioned to the Committee shows any

Mr. E. Adamson. very great difference between the real amount of pauperism amongst the poorest class of Irish and amongst the poorest class of Scotch?—Yes, I think it does; because the per-centage is very heavy; seven per cent.

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4406. You think that it considerably more than counterbalances the large number of Scotch inhabitants in Glasgow who do not belong at all to that class?—I think it does; and I know from experience that the Irish are far more ready to apply to the parish than the generality of the Scotch are.

4407. But speaking generally of the poor, both Irish and Scotch, the great majority of them are working people, who by their work contribute to the wealth and prosperity of the town of Glasgow?—They do when they are well.

4408. It would not be true to say of the Irish, as a class, that they were parasites upon your community, taking from it more than they rendered to it?—There are a great many of them that do; and they have come over from Ireland for the very purpose of getting relief; they have told me that they have.

4409. *Chairman.*] What have they told you about it?—That they came to Glasgow because they were starving at home, and they wanted relief. I said, "Why did you not get it at home?" and they said that they were told they could get it better with us.

4410. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Has it been your practice, in cases of that kind, to give out-door relief, or to give relief in the workhouse?—We give both; in some cases we could not give relief in the workhouse.

4411. My question refers to cases of that kind to which you have just alluded?—I would give them an order for the house at once if there was no disease or sickness to prevent it.

4412. Do you find that people who could get a living by their industry out of the house prefer remaining in the workhouse?—Some do.

4413. Irish people?—Yes; there are some now whom I have threatened, that if they did not go and work and find something to do, I must remove them; that I could not continue them longer on the parish books.

4414. Are those persons legally removable from Scotland?—They are.

4415. Out of the large number whom you have removed, why have you not removed the class of people which you now speak of that remain in the workhouse, though they can live out of it?—I have only been three years and a half in Glasgow. I was strongly opposed to the manner in which removals generally took place. There was an officer appointed purposely for that department; he managed it up to 1852, when he ceased to be connected with the parish, and I requested the Board to allow me to manage it myself, and since that time the removals have been fewer, and the expense to the parish has not been so much. I have shown them that if they did not rely upon themselves, it would be my painful duty to remove them, and in many cases I have got them to work; or they have said, "Well, but I cannot get work here, I shall be obliged if you will give me the means to go to Ireland." I have not taken out a warrant of removal for a single person to Ireland for two years, but have arranged the business with themselves.

4416. Will you be good enough to inform the Committee as to the number of the inmates of the poorhouse at Glasgow?—It varies. In the middle of summer we have between 900 and 1,000, and in the depth of winter between 1,400 and 1,500.

4417. Can you say what number there may be belonging to the class of whom you speak who remain in the workhouse, although they could get a living out of it?—I dare say we have 20 or 30 in now.

4418. Are those persons who, being of that class, have been a long time in the workhouse?—No, they are frequently in and out. Upon some trifling ailment they are brought into the house, and then, when they get in and are about to be removed, they say, "Well, I will go and work for myself;" and we allow them to go.

4419. But in point of fact they cannot be re-admitted unless they are suffering from illness or accident?—No. I say to them, "You have been here long enough; I must remove you to your own parish."

4420. But it appears, from your experience of the administration of the law, that it is not necessary, for the protection of the ratepayers in Glasgow, to remove any very large proportion of the Irish who do become applicants for relief?—We have not the power. We send a great many. The Irish cost us

at

at least 7,000*l.* a year. If we had no law of removal it would increase so much upon us that 20,000*l.* a year would not clear us.

4421. It is your impression that a greatly increased number would come from Ireland for that purpose?—Yes. A great number in Glasgow would not exert themselves as they do; and those who came upon our books for temporary relief during sickness would continue a longer time upon our books. It is difficult to persuade them that they are well till we say that we must remove them.

4422. In administering the Poor-law in Scotland, do you leave it to the pauper himself to tell when he shall cease to receive relief; do you not exercise any discretion, with the assistance of your medical officer?—Of course; but they describe aches and pains that no medical officer can find or see.

4423. Mr. *Maguire.*] You said that you can remove a Scotch pauper; practically speaking, is a Scotch pauper removed from parish to parish?—Yes; at least we get an order either to remove him to his own parish, or to administer relief to him, and his own parish pay us.

4424. Practically, what do you do?—We do both; if it is a worthy person, one who is really considered an object of parochial relief, the practice is to give an order to relieve him where he is.

4425. Generally speaking, that is the practice?—Yes; but where there is a doubt of his being a proper object, the order is to remove him.

4426. Generally speaking, all through Scotland is it not the practice to relieve the party, and charge the expense of his relief to the parish in which he is settled?—No, it is both ways to a large extent; I think we do about as much one way as the other.

4427. You say that the poor come from Ireland for the purpose of getting parochial relief; did you hear the last witness state that a great many applied to be sent back to Ireland?—Some may do so.

4428. Is not that somewhat contradictory?—Not at all.

4429. How do you account for it?—Of the vast numbers that we have, a certain number may say they want relief; another number would say they want to be sent to Ireland; I have frequent applications from parties to be sent to Ireland.

4430. If the condition of Ireland were so wretched, and the relief so very bad there, do you think it at all likely that an Irish pauper would want to be sent back to Ireland?—I never said that Ireland was wretched, and do not wish to say it; I only state what the paupers tell me.

4431. Did you not hear the last witness state that a great many applied to be sent back to Ireland?—Yes; I am bound to say the same.

4432. Would not that practically negative the assertion made by the Irish who come to your country and say that they cannot get relief at home?—Those who apply to me to be sent back have perhaps never experienced the discipline of the law in Ireland.

4433. Do you know that any person who applies for relief in Ireland must obtain that relief?—I should think he must, if he is a proper object.

4434. Then a statement to the contrary is worth very little, I should think?—Perhaps it may be given in a way that he does not like.

4435. You said that you had obtained no order for removal for a certain time, and that you had managed the business with themselves; what is the meaning of that?—I said that I arranged the matter; there is a provision in the poor-law that, if the parties voluntarily wish to go, we need not get a removal order; and when they have been well attended to during sickness, and have got better, if they wish to become paupers, I then say to them that they must either go off our books or go to Ireland; and I give them their choice, either to go off our books altogether and maintain themselves, or I must remove them, either by warrant or without.

4436. Therefore their voluntary removal is, to a certain extent, compulsory?—No doubt of it, because they know that I can have a warrant if I choose.

4437. You said, that if the law were repealed you feared that a great many more would come from Ireland; do you still entertain that fear?—I said that I did not anticipate so many coming from Ireland, as that many Irish in Glasgow would apply for relief who do not apply now.

4438. If you heard that the condition of Ireland was very much improved, that employment was more general, and that wages were better, would you have any

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apprehensions for the future that a large
Scotland?—Not so long as that prosperity continued.

4439. If you had it on the very best authority that a material change had taken place, and that that improvement was likely to increase every day, and wages likely to increase, would you then have any apprenension for the future?—Yes; because the revulsions in trade and failure in agricultural produce would produce distress, and the same thing would occur again as before.

4440. If you knew that a larger quantity of land was thrown into the hands of persons who had a large capital to work it, would your apprehension of a revulsion in agriculture, as you call it, still exist?—I said a revulsion in trade.

4441. I now confine it to agriculture; do you not think that the prosperity in agriculture would be on the increase?—No; I should still dread the return of what we have been visited with before.

4442. If you found, or knew, that last year 200,000 persons emigrated from the country, either to Australia, to the States, or to Canada, and that the stream of emigration was still flowing steadily on from Ireland to those countries, would not your apprehension of an Irish migration to Scotland be considerably diminished?—I do not know what class of people have gone to Australia; the class who come to us are, the great bulk of them, paupers.

4443. Do they not come in search of labour?—A great number of them are incapable of labour, both from age and infirmity and from the tender years of infancy.

4444. *Chairman.*] When they land in Scotland?—Yes.

4445. Mr. *Maguire.*] Speaking of age, do many very aged persons go to Scotland?—I do not know whether they do now, but they did in 1847.

4446. Do you know whether many have gone since then?—I do not. I have no returns, and I have no means of judging.

4447. Colonel *Blair.*] Is it not the custom for those who have obtained work, very often to send over to Ireland for their parents?—Yes, and parties come over seeking their friends. We very frequently get young girls and boys. Many of them profess to be seeking uncles or fathers, or brothers or sisters; they are quite destitute, and they have come and asked me to send them home, and I have sent them. They are not proper objects for parochial relief. The Scotch Poor-law has made no provision for able-bodied persons. We have had young girls of 16 or 18 saying that they had come to seek a father or a brother, and had I refused them relief they would have gone perhaps upon the streets.

4448. Have you had many opportunities, during the time you have been in Glasgow, of seeing the Irish parties arrive at Glasgow?—No. I have been very seldom at the quay when they have come in.

4449. Can you inform the Committee in what state these steamers do arrive; are they very crowded and very uncomfortable?—They were in 1847; they brought twice the number that they ought to have brought; I think one steamer brought in 1,800 one day.

4450. Then you do not suppose that, in the cases of the removal of these Irish paupers, they are a bit worse off in going back to Belfast than in coming over; they generally come by deck passage?—The great bulk of them come by deck passage.

4451. Then you do not conceive that those who are removed and sent back by warrants, or voluntarily, are in a bit worse condition than when they came evor voluntarily?—Certainly not; many of them are much better because they are better clothed, and a supply of provisions is given them. Sometimes, when they come ashore there, they have had nothing for two or three days but what they could beg; and we always take care that they are properly clothed, and give them provisions for the passage; in fact, the magistrates would not give us an order till we promised to clothe them.

4452. *Chairman.*] Have you had any communications with the paupers generally, from which you can infer whether they prefer your system of administering relief in Scotland to that in Ireland, or whether they have any feeling at all upon that subject?—They prefer ours; they have repeatedly told me so.

4453. What reason have they assigned for preferring yours?—I have not had an opportunity of seeing any of the poorhouses in Ireland. I have often thought I should ask leave of absence to go there. I feel very anxious to go, that I may see them and judge for myself; but they say the discipline is generally more strictly carried out than with us; I fancy it is too lax with us.

4454. It has been said here by a witness that you have the means of protecting yourselves at Glasgow if you would but administer the poor-law with proper strictness; in your judgment, have you the means of so far protecting yourselves as to render this law of removal unnecessary?—No, we have not; and there is a very strong feeling in Scotland about dealing very rigidly with the poor; the disposition is rather to be liberal. There would be a very strong feeling in Glasgow against adopting a rigid discipline with regard to the poor in the poorhouse.

4455. Mr. *J. Ball.*] There is this great difference between the poor-law in Scotland and in Ireland, that in Scotland it is restricted to those who are disabled by sickness, or accident, or infirmity from earning their bread; whereas, in Ireland, relief is administered to all persons who are destitute?—The Scotch poor-law compels us to relieve a certain class; with the other class it is optional.

4456. That is practically restricted within very narrow limits, is it not?—No, it is not. What would be termed an able-bodied man under the English poor-law, would not be considered such in Scotland. For instance, in the English poor-law, it says, "able-bodied persons relieved on account of sickness or accident;" but, in the Scotch poor-law, that would be considered a contradiction in terms; they would not consider such a person able-bodied.

4457. Is it safe to assume, from the returns of relief to the poor in Scotland, that those entered as casual poor are actually able-bodied persons, but merely destitute through want of employment?—Casual poor, as explained by the Board of Supervision, are such poor as are relieved temporarily by the official before he has had an opportunity of bringing them before the Parochial Board; but all cases which have been adjudicated upon by the Parochial Board, are considered as registered poor, and not casual poor.

4458. Can the Parochial Boards legally register and give relief to able-bodied persons who are merely destitute, and in want of employment?—They can. There is this simple difference: in the case of a person who is considered a proper object of parochial relief, if the official were to refuse him relief, he would go at once with the line of refusal to the sheriff, and he would give him an order to an agent for the poor to raise an action against the inspector, and compel him to relieve him; but an able-bodied man cannot do that. You may relieve him if you think proper, but he cannot raise an action against you if you do not relieve him.

4459. In Glasgow, have you any return, or means of knowing the number of able-bodied persons who are relieved simply on the ground of destitution?—No, there is not that distinction made in our books. We could get it, but it would be picking them out from our application and relief books.

4460. Is not the difference, however, one of very great importance in your view in the administration of the Poor-law?—Yes; and it is one which gives us a strong argument, when we think that a man is lazy and will not work, to say that we think he is not a proper object of parochial relief, and not to give him anything.

4461. And it is always within your discretion to refuse such cases?—Yes.

4462. Can you say whether any considerable number of Irish poor are relieved in Glasgow, not from their labouring under sickness or accident, but from the want of employment?—Very few either of the Scotch or of the Irish are so relieved; there are some casual cases.

4463. Then, in point of fact, the number so relieved is but small?—But small, because they know that they have no claim, and they do not apply.

4464. Mr. *Dunlop.*] It is only in a strong and exceptional case that you give any temporary relief to an able-bodied man?—Only in extraordinary cases.

Lunæ, 26° *die Junii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Stirling.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Ingham.
Sir John Young.	Sir John Pakington.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *Ebenezer Adamson*, called in; and further Examined.

r. *E. Adamson.*
26 June 1854.

4465. *Chairman.*] WHEN you were examined here the other day you put in certain papers of admissions to your poorhouse, applications for relief, and admissions into the infirmary, and you made a statement as to the crowding in certain houses which you visited in September 1852; have you any other documents which you wish to bring before the Committee?—I have the returns from the infirmary and from the night asylum, which will show the same proportion of applications from Irish as with respect to the poorhouse.

4466. How do you mean the same proportion of Irish; will you explain a little more fully what you infer from those papers?—I stated that the proportion of Irish to Scotch applications for relief was larger than in proportion to the inhabitants of the city, and the returns from the infirmary and the night asylum will show the same amount.

4467. Have you any paper showing the birthplaces of paupers on the roll?—I have.

4468. What is that paper?—It shows that more than one-fourth of the parties on our roll are persons born in Ireland.

4469. What do you call your roll?—The poor relief list.

4470. Was that paper made out by yourself?—It was made by my son from the books, showing that we had 3,664 parties on the roll chargeable to the parish, and that 870 of them were Irish.

4471. When was that?—At the close of the year 1853.

4472. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Irish born?—Irish born.

4473. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Does that paper contain any statement showing the number of years or the period during which they had resided at Glasgow?—Certainly not.

4474. *Chairman.*] I understand that it shows that out of a certain number of persons upon the roll in December last a certain proportion were found to be Irish born?—Yes.

4475. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Had they obtained a legal settlement?—Some had, but by far the greater number had not obtained a legal settlement.

4476. Can you give the proportion?—I cannot; I have not got the proportions.

4477. *Chairman.*] Some of them, but how many you cannot say at present, would be irremovable, viz., those who had a settlement?—Some would be irremovable, but the larger proportion would be removable.

4478. Are you conversant with the practice as to taking out orders of removal and making those voluntary arrangements which are sanctioned by your statute?—Yes.

4479. What is the practice as to taking out orders of removal; where are they applied for?—They are applied for generally to the justices of the peace, and sometimes to the sheriff. The parties are taken down to the courts, and are examined by the justices or their clerk.

4480. In open court?—In open court.

4481. Are

4481. Are those applications ever dealt with at the private houses of the magistrates?—I never heard of such a case; I do not think the magistrates would do it.

4482. The uniform practice, you say, is the other way?—It is; I never knew any other case.

4483. Is the pauper present and examined by the justices or their clerk?—Always.

4484. You said the other day that no warrant for the removal of any pauper had been taken out by the city parish for the last two years?—I did.

4485. In what way then have removals been made during the last two years?—By voluntary arrangement with the paupers themselves.

4486. Under your Act of Parliament?—Under the Act of Parliament.

4487. What is the nature of that arrangement?—When we think that they are parties who ought not to be chargeable, and they have been there a considerable time, and are not likely to get off our books, we represent to them that we cannot burthen the city of Glasgow with them any longer; that they have not got a settlement there, and that we must remove them to their own country; that we are willing to do it by amicable arrangement, but that if not, we must go before the magistrates and abide by their decision; and we give them the choice of the time when they go; we do not hold them to a few days; we let them make their own arrangements; and I have been able to do it satisfactorily for the last two years; prior to that it was not my department to remove the Irish.

4488. But during the whole of the last two years it has been within your peculiar province to carry out these removals?—It has.

4489. With regard to lunatics and children born in Ireland, have you any particular practice in the inquiries conducted before your justices and sheriff?—They are a great deal stricter with the examination as to settlement, because we must prove a negative, not only that they were born in Ireland, but that they never had a settlement in Scotland.

4490. The justices require proof of that?—They do.

4491. Has your attention been called to the subject of persons who are said to have been sent back from Ireland to Scotland after having been removed?—A considerable number of paupers have stated to me that they have been sent back after having been removed. We took one of them down to make affidavit to that effect, and she refused when we took her before the justices.

4492. Have you any documents to which you can refer upon this point?—I have a document from one of the officials connected with the parish some years ago.

4493. What is that paper which you hold in your hand?—This is a letter to my predecessor from the official who removed the parties to Ireland.

4494. Did you find it among the documents in your office?—Yes.

4495. What is the date of it?—The 16th of March 1849.

4496. Will you read it?—He says, "In conformity with your instructions, on Saturday the 10th instant I accompanied the paupers, for whom warrants of removal had been granted, to Belfast; we landed at 11 p.m. same night, and it being too late to procure for them admission to the workhouse, I got lodgings for them. On the following morning I accompanied them to the house of correction, where we remained about a quarter of an hour, but did not see any of the guardians; we then went to the house of Mr. Mars, one of the wardens, who filled up orders for their admission to the poorhouse. On the morning of the 12th I went to the house of correction, and saw the paupers there; three gentlemen were present, two of whom are members of the Board of Guardians, the third was a surgeon, of the name of Brown. We had a conversation regarding the law of settlement, and various other matters connected with the Scottish Poor Law and the removal of paupers. Dr. Brown asserted that the story told by Jean Cairns was untrue, and he would not believe her on oath; he said she told them she had been six years in Glasgow. My answer was, that she had been only three years and a half in Glasgow, and although her illegitimate child had been born there, that did not give her a claim for relief; and I read them the decision of Sheriff Bell, concurred in by the Sheriff Depute, in the case of Jean Delamore Johnston, pronounced in September last. Dr. Brown then stated that her story had been prompted to her by the authorities of Glasgow, and that her answers had been put into her mouth; this I indignantly denied; he also said she had been put out

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of the way, to prevent the paternity of the child being established; I told him that his assertion was untrue, and that it was dishonourable and ungentlemanly; he said that the paupers were lured into the hospital for the purpose of being sent to Ireland; my answer was that no such practices were pursued in the parish of Glasgow as luring paupers to apply for relief, and that no parochial Board in Scotland acted more honourably towards all classes of the poor than the parochial Board of Glasgow." He goes on to relate the discussion, and he says afterwards, "At two o'clock p. m., same day, I proceeded to the quay, and found all those that had been removed, except three, on board the 'Aurora' steamer, their passages having been paid for them. I also found on board a number of very poor creatures proceeding to Scotland; two families, consisting of 10 individuals, had only 2 *s.* to carry them 61 miles; three young girls had only 1 *s.* to take them 100 miles, and some of them had not one farthing. On leaving the boat, I found the two Glasgow boys standing on the quay, crying bitterly; I asked them if the gentlemen had not paid their passage; they said, they had not. I paid their passage, and procured some bread for them. On the following day I waited on Mr. Holden, and had a conversation with him regarding the subject in dispute; he said that the Belfast Board could not take any portion of the rates for the transmission of vagrants, and that the money expended for that purpose was raised by voluntary subscription, and that they had no resource against any parish in Ireland." There is an affidavit sworn before one of the justices of a person of the name of Catherine Quin, or Kelly.

4497. What is the date of that?—It is dated the 5th of July 1851.

4498. Where do you bring it from?—I found it in the office; in fact it was given to me by the official that went down with her before the justices to get her sworn to it.

4499. Will you read it?—"Compeared Richmond Willock" (that was the official who was down before the magistrate with her), "assistant inspector of the poor of the parish of Glasgow, who then and there brought before Alexander Drysdale, esq., one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace fort he county of Lanark, Catherine Quin, or Kelly, who, being solemnly sworn, depones: I am 40 years of age, and was born in the parish of Killumrie, county of Leitrim; my husband, Frank Kelly, born in the parish of Sirie, or Coltieclachan, died there three years ago, leaving me with four children, one of whom has been a dumb idiot from his birth. After my husband's death, I tried to support my family by breaking stones on the roads. About six months ago, Mr. Wilson, land steward to Mr. Martin, of Bloomfield, from whom we had six acres of land and a cottage, called on me and advised me to come to Scotland; I refused at that time; about two months ago he again called on me, and urged me very much to go to Scotland; I again refused, and said I had an innocent boy, who could do nothing for himself; I asked work for my oldest boy, which he refused, and said neither myself nor family would get money, relief, or work, but if I choosed, he had Mr. Martin the landlord's order to pay our passage to Glasgow. A few weeks after that he sent a man, and a horse and cart, who conveyed us to Sligo; I saw him pay our passage, and he gave me 2 *s.* 6 *d.* Neither myself, nor any of my family got any food the day we were removed, or the day before. Since I came to Glasgow I have endeavoured to support them by selling matches, and what my innocent boy might get from any charitable person. On my husband's deathbed, Mr. Lockhead demanded possession of our small farm, which we had to leave when he was buried. All this is true, as I shall answer to God; and depones, I cannot write. (signed) *Alex. Drysdale*, J. P."

4500. There is the signature of a magistrate to it?—There is.

4501. Have you any statement made by a person of the name of Elizabeth McIvor Donelley?—I have.

4502. Where did you get that from?—From my office.

4503. Is it kept among the official papers in your office?—It is.

4504. What is the date of it?—I have several papers. There was a good deal of correspondence on the subject with the Poor-law Commissioners of Ireland, the Board of Supervision in Scotland, and ourselves, and she made a statement.

4505. When was that statement made?—I am afraid I have not got it among my papers.

4506. Probably you can forward it?—I will do so. She had been removed six times to Ireland, and twice we put her in gaol for returning.

4507. As

4507. As a vagrant?—As a vagrant; and she stated to us that the money was paid to her to come back.

4508. Paid where?—In Ireland, by the officials of the poorhouse.

4509. You are about to give us her own original statement?—Yes.

4510. Mr. *Maguire.*] The officials of what workhouse?—Strathbane.

4511. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Did Mrs. Donelley make the statement in your presence?—She did.

4512. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] With regard to the first two cases which you mentioned, does it appear from any documents in the office that the parties received relief as paupers on their going to Scotland?—Yes; without that we should not have known anything about them; we should not have interfered with them.

4513. Were they sent back to Ireland?—No, I think not; I am not aware.

4514. *Chairman.*] In your examination here the other day, you said that you had reason to believe that Irish paupers preferred the kind of relief given in Scotland to that given in Ireland, and that they had stated that to you; did they state any reasons for that preference?—Yes; they stated that the discipline of our poorhouses was not so strict as that in Ireland.

4515. Will you state all that they said to you upon that point?—They stated to me generally that they did not like the Irish poorhouses; that they were stricter with them than we were.

4516. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did they give any explanation of the word "stricter"?—We allow our paupers at certain times to go out and see their friends in the city, and that I understand is not allowed by the authorities in Ireland, and we do not forbid any of the paupers' friends sending them in tea or sugar, or anything of that kind, which I understand is not allowed in Ireland; little things of that kind they like to get, and which they are not allowed in Ireland; at least I have been told so.

4517. *Chairman.*] I observe that in your answer to Question 4453 last Thursday, you said, "They say the discipline is generally more strictly carried out than with us; I fancy it is too lax with us"?—That was my answer.

4518. In your opinion, might the making your discipline somewhat more stringent of itself, give you the protection which you now think you derive from the power of removal?—We could not make it more strict without pressing it upon the Scotch, for whom it is not too lax; but it is for the Irish, when we compare our discipline with what they say is the discipline in the Irish houses.

4519. Do you mean with reference to the Scotch that it is too lax?—I do not.

4520. But as a check for the Irish you would consider it too lax?—Most decidedly; they have stated so to me repeatedly. When I have wanted them to go, and have said, "You have been in our poorhouse so many months," they have said, "Well, where am I to go?" "You can go to the poorhouse in your own country," they have shrugged up their shoulders, stated as a reason that they did not like the Irish poorhouses so well as ours.

4521. Can you form any judgment from your acquaintance with Scotland whether the feeling in Scotland would be in favour or otherwise of any proposition for rendering your system more strict?—There would be a very strong feeling against it from the ratepayers generally.

4522. Are you speaking of the town merely?—Yes; I know nothing of the country; I merely speak of Glasgow. In Glasgow there would be a very strong feeling.

4523. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] In the case of Catherine Quin I think you stated that you found a document in your office from which it appeared that Catherine Quin had been sent over by her landlord, a gentleman in Leitrim?—Yes, so it is stated.

4524. Does it appear that Catherine Quin, when she was sent to Scotland, obtained parish relief?—Most decidedly; we should not have interfered with the case if she had not.

4525. Does it appear that she was sent back to Ireland?—I am not aware; I have not searched the books to see that.

4526. According to her own statement, hers would have been a case in which the authorities would have been justified in sending her back to Ireland?—They would, but we did not send her.

4527. With regard to the Scotch system being more lax than the Irish system, I presume in Scotland husband and wife are separated?—Yes.

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4528. Are you aware that they are separated in Ireland?—I should think so. I cannot conceive of a well-regulated workhouse without separating them.

4529. Are the children separated from their parents in Scotland?—When they are of very tender age they are not, but they are after a certain age.

4530. Are you aware that that is the same in Ireland?—I should think that it is.

4531. Can you state, generally speaking, what is the nature of the dietary in Scotland in the workhouse?—I have not the tables here, but from what tables I have seen of the Irish houses and ours, I think ours is superior.

4532. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to the feeling which you stated existed in Glasgow as to the administration of relief, can you afford the Committee any explanation of this fact, that the apparent amount of relief given per head in Glasgow is very much less than the average of Scotland; it appears that of the whole number upon the roll during the last year, ending, I think, the 25th of May, the average allowance in Glasgow was about 2 *l.* 18 *s.* 6 *d.*, whereas over the whole of Scotland it appears to have been about 4 *l.* 2 *s.* 6 *d.*?—I think it arises in this way, that a great mass of the cases in Glasgow are temporary cases, and it swells the number of paupers, but not the amount paid per head so much as in other places.

4533. It is your impression that the weekly allowance, or the weekly cost of maintenance in the workhouse is less at Glasgow than in other places in Scotland?—No, I should say it is more. I will state why I come to that conclusion, that when I receive orders from other parishes to relieve their poor residing in Glasgow, in 19 cases out of 20 I find that they order less than we should give under similar circumstances.

4534. Under the head of maintenance in your workhouse accounts, do you include clothing?—Yes.

4535. What is the weekly cost of the maintenance of a pauper in the Glasgow workhouse?—I am sure I do not recollect at the present moment; I should think about 2 *s.* 3 *d.*; they were making it up when I left home.

4536. Are you able to state the annual charge for the relief of the poor in Glasgow as assessed upon the rental?—It has been 12½ per cent. for some years; it will average above 12 per cent. in the last three or four years.

4537. That is about 2 *s.* 6 *d.* in the pound?—Two and sixpence; last year it was 2 *s.* 1 *d.*; we commence our year in June.

4538. Out of the proceeds of that rate, is there anything besides the relief of the poor?—No.

4539. No local charges?—No local charges whatever.

4540. Can you state the separate cost of removal of paupers from Glasgow; it is not distinguished in the public accounts?—It has been less than usual; if I recollect rightly, it was 50 *l.* last year, besides provisions and clothing.

4541. Last year there were 1,059, I think, removed from Glasgow?—That would not be from the parish of Glasgow.

4542. But from the four parishes to which I understand your observations to refer?—I cannot speak to that; I think our number was about 400 and odd.

4543. And the cost of those removals was only about 50 *l.*—Yes.

4544. What is the general cost of removal of an Irish pauper?—The fare is 2 *s.* 6 *d.* from Glasgow to Belfast.

4545. What do you allow them?—We give them as much bread as will supply them on their passage, and such clothing as is necessary, depending upon the weather.

4546. You give them nothing besides the bread?—No.

4547. No money whatever?—If the pauper has to go beyond the port to any place at a distance, we give him sufficient money to carry him from the port to the place where he is going.

4548. Suppose a pauper says he is going to the west of Ireland, do you give him money enough to travel from Glasgow to the west of Ireland?—In the very last case I had, I gave a woman 7 *s.* to carry her from Dublin to some place west of Dublin; I do not recollect the name, but from the distance I thought that 5 *s.* would pay the railway fare, and that she would have a couple of shillings to buy anything she liked in Dublin.

4549. Is that remitted altogether to your discretion?—If the case occurs when the committee is not sitting it is, but if the committee is sitting they fix the sum at once.

4550. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] You have a committee to regulate these matters?—Every morning, to relieve the paupers.

4551. Mr. *J. Ball.*] When you speak of the rate being 2 *s.* 6 *d.* or 2 *s.* 1 *d.* in the pound, is that upon the rental of 1843, which appears to have been the last furnished to Parliament?—We take a new valuation every year; the rate is made on the rental of the year. Our parochial year closes on the 14th of May, but we can take no step in laying a new rate till the beginning of June. So far as Glasgow is concerned, it is what is called the Term-day, on the 28th of May, when the surveyors survey the city, and make out the rateable property of the city, and the rate is laid upon that.

4552. In that return or valuation, is the actual rent that which is entered?—The actual rent is put down, and then 20 per cent. is deducted for repairs and insurance, and what is necessary to keep the property in a state to command that rental.

4553. In the case of property not let to tenants, it is the valuation made by a surveyor?—It is.

4554. Colonel *Blair.*] In the case of voluntary removals, do you suppose that those who apply to be removed by voluntary removal, do so with the intention of returning again to Scotland?—Some do, and some do not; we have no large numbers that come back; it is but very few.

4555. But there are cases where they apply themselves to be removed to Ireland, and after staying there a short time, they come back again for the same purpose?—Yes; and we have a great number that apply to be sent to Ireland that we refuse; I have had applications to be sent to Ireland from perhaps a dozen or 14 parties in a morning, and I have refused probably two-thirds of them; and when the official has gone down to the quay with those parties whom we had thought proper to remove at the expense of the parish, he has sometimes found the others there paying their passages.

4556. You say the rate in Glasgow was 2 *s.* 1 *d.* last year?—Yes.

4557. Have you any idea what the rates are in other towns in Scotland, say on the east coast?—I have not; but we are generally considered to be more highly rated than most of the other parishes in Scotland, and that has been used as an argument against the amalgamation of parishes, that they could not amalgamate with Glasgow on account of its being so highly rated.

4558. Do you attribute that to its being the port that has the greatest communication with Ireland?—I do.

4559. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] You have already stated that a number of paupers, in about 1849 and 1850, came from Ireland, having got their passages paid by parties in Ireland to Scotland; have you any cases of a more recent date of the same kind?—Isolated cases are occurring regularly; those parties who were removed in 1847 and 1848 would, if they had remained within the parish, have gained a settlement, and we could not remove them. The removals that have taken place latterly must have been of parties that had recently come over from Ireland, or come from some other part of Scotland where they had not got a settlement, and become chargeable to us, because all that were removed in 1847 would now have got a settlement.

4560. You have stated that parties in Belfast were in the habit of paying the passage-money of paupers from Belfast over to Glasgow about 1851; are you aware whether that practice still exists on the part of the same individuals in Belfast?—A very few weeks ago two parties applied to me to be sent back to Ireland, and I said, "When did you come?" They said, "We have been a few weeks in Glasgow." "How did you come?" and they said that a person had paid their passage-money for them, and that they had come to get work, and could not get it, and were starving; and that they wished to be sent back again.

4561. Mr. *Maguire.*] They came for the purpose of getting work?—Yes, and they could not get it.

4562. Not to beg?—Certainly not.

4563. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] You have stated the number of fever cases which had applied to you for relief, and you have compared the number of Scotch-born paupers with Irish; can you state with regard to cholera cases the number of Irish as compared with Scotch?—Yes; the number of applications for relief on account of cholera, from the 1st of October when it broke out, till the 22d of June, were 502; of which 331 were born in Scotland, 16 in England, and

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155 in Ireland; of coffins granted on account of deaths from cholera, 244 were for Scotch, 113 for Irish, and 5 for English.

4564. When you say Irish, do you mean Irish who had really no claim upon your parish?—No claim upon our parish. The number admitted into the cholera hospital of cases that could not be dealt with in their own houses were 432; of whom 280 were natives of Scotland, 10 of England, 140 of Ireland, and 2 were foreigners.

4565. What is the proportionate expense of paupers relieved in Glasgow from all the other parishes of Scotland, as compared with the Irish paupers?—The accounts for the last year were just closed when I came away, and for all the parishes in Scotland it was 2,864 *l.*, and for the Irish 7,000 *l.* odd.

4566. Are those paupers not belonging to Glasgow?—Not belonging to Glasgow, but relieved in Glasgow.

4567. Having no claim on Glasgow?—No.

4568. Will you state what is your remedy against the Scotch parishes?—Our remedy against the Scotch parishes is removal, and charging the parishes with the amount of relief which we have given to their paupers.

4569. Do you find any difficulty at all in getting the requisite sums from the Scotch parishes?—Generally speaking, they pay them very well. There are two or three parishes in the far Western Highlands that we have some difficulty with, but the others generally pay very promptly.

4570. In the early operation of the Act under which you now exist, I suppose the legal expenses were very considerable in establishing the questions between one parish and another?—They were.

4571. Do you find that these expenses are diminishing very much?—Very rapidly.

4572. Can you give anything like the amount for a series of years, or for last year?—I cannot; but I know, practically speaking, that there is a general disposition of the parishes to submit the case to some legal authority for his opinion, rather than go to law; the sheriff, perhaps.

4573. And, in fact, the precedents which have been established are now so well understood by the respective parishes, that they do not require to go to law to establish their rights against each other?—Not so frequently.

4574. Have you any remedy against Ireland, if the pauper belongs to that country?—We have none but removal. I wish we could recover the money.

4575. What do you do with the English paupers when they become chargeable?—We remove them to England.

4576. Do you find any complaint from England on that account?—None whatever; I never heard a complaint from England, that I am aware of.

4577. If an Irish pauper becomes chargeable on account of sickness, do you carefully observe that he is cured before he is removed; does an examination take place, to see that he is restored to health?—We never remove an Irish pauper on account of being relieved during sickness, unless he continues on your books afterwards, when we think that he ought to go out. When they are cured, if they go off our books, we do not trouble them with removal at all; we have never removed one case that has been on our books on account of sickness.

4578. In fact, you follow the practice, if they really are sick, to relieve them, and at the same time never remove them?—We never remove unless after sickness, when we think that they are well and ought to work; if they refuse to do that, or become troublesome, we then enforce the law of removal; but we never remove them because they have been on our book on account of sickness, as we think that that is a thing which they cannot help.

4579. You have already stated that there is a strong feeling in Glasgow against any more strict discipline in the poorhouse?—Yes, very strong.

4580. That is to say, the Poor-law authorities in Glasgow are very much disposed to relieve their poorer brethren who have been visited by sickness or other causes over which they have no control?—Yes; there is a very strong feeling to be as kind to them as possible.

4581. You were going on to state to the Committee, and I think you hardly finished it, the per-centage of the number of Irish received into the night asylum of Glasgow, as compared with the Scotch?—It is about 25 per cent., the same as on the roll, and it is the same in the Infirmary also.

4582. And House of Refuge?—For the House of Refuge I did not get the returns;

returns; I generally have the published returns sent to me from the other places; I have got them here.

4583. Will you describe to the Committee how the Glasgow parishes are situated with regard to each other; the parochial bounds of the various parishes? —There are four, which constitute what is called Glasgow Proper, the municipal borough of Glasgow; two of them are on the south side of the river, one of which is a very small parish, Gorbals, and generally inhabited by a very poor population.

4584. The whole of Gorbals is in the Parliamentary borough?—Yes. Then Govan is a much larger and wealthier parish, and it is also on the south side of the river.

4585. Only a portion of it is within the Parliamentary borough?—Just so. Then on the north side of the river are the city of Glasgow parish, and the parish of Barony; a portion of that also is beyond the limits of the Parliamentary borough, and there is a great deal of difficulty in working the Poor-law between the two parishes, Barony and Glasgow. The division between the two parishes was originally a burn, of a very zigzag course; that has been covered over, and built upon, and none but the officials, and scarcely some of them, know where the division is between the two parishes, and parties repeatedly fancy they have got a settlement in Glasgow when they have nothing of the kind; they have been living first on one side and then on the other of the boundary, and have never got a settlement, though they may have been 20 years in Glasgow. Perhaps a party at No. 10 in a street is in the city parish, and the next door is in the other parish; in fact it divides houses; one part of a room is in the Barony parish, and another part is in the city.

4586. Supposing these parishes were united into one parish, do you think that many more settlements would be the result?—They would for a while at first; it would throw upon the parishes some of the settlements that are now disputed between the two; it would save an immense deal of correspondence.

4587. Do you think that many more Irish would obtain a settlement?—No, I think not; there would be a few, but they chiefly inhabit the wynds, and those places where the line of demarkation does not interfere.

4588. Have many cases come under your notice, of individuals, who having once obtained a settlement, have lost that settlement by residing beyond the parish in which the settlement was obtained for more than four years?—I should say some hundreds of cases.

4589. That is, of individuals who had once a settlement?—Who had once a settlement, and had lost it; but our sheriff refuses to remove under those circumstances; he reads the Act of Parliament, that if they ever had a settlement in Scotland, they cannot be removed to Ireland; Sheriff Bell holds that interpretation.

4590. Have you tried the other sheriffs?—No.

4591. *Chairman.*] Would he refuse to move the person to Ireland, if there had been a settlement gained anywhere in Scotland?—Yes, though he might have lost it.

4592. Though there might have been a forfeiture of it by non-residence? —Yes.

4593. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is that the sheriff of Glasgow?—Mr. Bell, the sheriff depute.

4594. Does he decide all the cases in Glasgow?—No, but he generally takes the Poor-law department.

4595. Is not that considered an illegal construction of the statute on his part? —It has been disputed, but never tried in any court; it is thought that it is illegal.

4596. Is it not clearly so?—I think he is right.

4597. Legally right?—I think he is.

4598. You say, that out of 502 persons affected with cholera, there were 331 Scotch, and 155 Irish; and I think you remarked, that none of them had a claim on the parish?—I did not mean to say none of them, but very few.

4599. Give the exact number of the 155 who had no claim upon the parish for relief?—One hundred and sixteen.

4600. What do you mean by having no claim on the parish?—I mean they had no settlement.

4601. Had any of them a settlement in any other part of Scotland?—No, or we

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we should have claimed upon the other parish for the amount directly. These had never had a settlement in Scotland.

4602. Is it not possible that some of these might have had a settlement in some other part of Scotland, and lost it?—I should find it in this return.

4603. How many years had any portion of the 116 resided in Glasgow?—I could not tell without going over each case in the books.

4604. Had any of them resided 10 years?—I could not tell such a thing; I have no means of doing it.

4605. Do you think any of them had been five years there?—They would have had a settlement if they had.

4606. They might have gone from one parish to the other, might they not?—Yes, and never have gained a settlement.

4607. Is that what you mean by saying that they had no claim on the parish to be relieved when they were afflicted by that terrible disease?—I mean to say that they had no legal claim upon the parish for any more than temporary relief, and they were liable to removal.

4608. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] But in fact you did not remove them, nor is it your practice to do so?—Certainly not; we never remove any one on account of sickness.

4609. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know what the circumstances of those 116 people were; were they hard-working, laborious people?—I cannot say; not all of them; some of them were not.

4610. Generally?—No. If they had been persons well doing they would not have been removed into the hospital.

4611. Would you advise the retention of a person afflicted by cholera in his or her own house?—If the cholera was far advanced we would not remove them on any account; it would hasten their death.

4612. Suppose it was not far advanced; I am not speaking of the collapsed stage, but there are other stages before that; would you advise the retention of such a person in his or her own house?—Certainly not. In the early stages of the disease the sooner they are removed the better.

4613. Still are you not of opinion that it would be a dangerous thing to keep a person suffering under cholera of any sort in a very crowded locality?—Yes; but I know most of these cases, from my own observation, that they were very poor persons.

4614. You said that there were 60,000 Irish poor in Glasgow, and you admitted that there were about 20.000 children of Irish-born persons?—I said it might be so, but did not like to give an opinion.

4615. Speaking of those 60,000, considering that those persons are engaged in rude and laborious occupations, and more liable to this disease than any others, is it very astonishing that 116 of them should be afflicted by this disease?—No, I do not think it is.

4616. Is not it the very class upon whom it would fall most readily and fatally?—Yes; but I do not say that the whole of the 60,000 are hard-working people.

4617. But are not the majority of them engaged in active employment of a rude and laborious kind?—I can scarcely say the majority; the great mass of those who come over are incapable of it.

4618. I thought you said the other day that they were a very hard-working, laborious people?—I did say so as to those able to work.

4619. And those not able to undertake hard work endeavour to get some other kind of employment suited to their physical capacity?—They do.

4620. What is your object in giving those figures to the Committee; what is the impression which you seek to leave upon the minds of the Committee with reference to them?—I wish the Committee to understand that they are more burdensome to the city of Glasgow than any other class of people, and that if the law of removal of them to their own country is repealed they will be still more burthensome.

4621. Do you dread any increase to that number from Ireland?—I do; I am sure of it.

4622. If there were a plentiful harvest in Ireland, and the potatoes were again good this year, and the country were well cultivated, and labour continuous, would you fear much increase in the number of Irish coming to Scotland?—They come over

over now when trade is good and provisions are plentiful, and we cannot foresee that Providence will never send a blast upon the potato crop again.

4623. Are not the numbers diminishing?—The poor generally are diminishing.

4624. Are not the numbers coming from Ireland to Scotland diminishing every day?—I have no means of knowing; I only know those who come to the parish for relief; I do not know how many are landed.

4625. I think you said that the Irish came over to Scotland for the purpose of obtaining employment?—I did; and some come over for the purpose of obtaining relief.

4626. Can you give the Committee a case or two of that kind. When did cases of that kind come to your knowledge?—I cannot give the names here, but I could if I were in the office. Parties have stated that they had not a penny when they landed.

4627. That might be all very true; but might not a person who had not a penny when he landed, have come for the purpose of obtaining employment?—They were past employment; some on account of old age, and others were too young; and we have had widows landed on the quay, or women said to be widows, with five or six children, not one of them able to get a penny.

4628. Were these widows ever in Scotland before?—Not to my knowledge.

4629. Do you know that they were not?—I do not know that they were not, or that they were.

4630. You speak of the old people; had those old people relatives in Scotland?—Some said they had, and some said they had not.

4631. What was the object of those paupers coming, if they had not relatives in Scotland?—They were starving at home.

4632. That was their assertion?—That was their assertion.

4633. Did you ask them whether they had applied for relief in Ireland?—I did not.

4634. Are you sufficiently informed to know, that if they had applied for relief that relief should have been given to them, and could not have been denied to them?—Most decidedly; I should think so, in every country where there is a well-regulated poor law.

4635. Last year how many of these old people, to your own knowledge, came over to Scotland who had no relations in Scotland, and who had no means of obtaining employment from old age?—I could not give the numbers.

4636. Were they 100?—I would not attempt to give a number.

4637. Were they 10?—I would not give any number.

4638. You say that such is the solicitude of the medical men about the poor, that they never allow them to be sent over to Ireland unless they are perfectly cured; have you heard of no cases of removal without examination and certificate?—Not till I came here.

4639. Was it you, or the gentleman who went before you, that had heard of some cases where there had been no examination at all, and where the orders of the Board had been contravened?—It was the gentleman before me.

4640. According to his statement such cases have occurred?—Yes.

4641. You say that the question of settlement is very easily decided; would you be astonished to hear that there were 1,100 or 1,200 cases of disputed settlement last year in Scotland?—I should not be surprised at all.

4642. Would you be surprised if you heard that they were double that number, and that the average cost of each controverted case is something like 30 *l.*; would that astonish you?—It would.

4643. Can you give the Committee any information as to the actual number of cases of disputed settlement last year?—No, I cannot.

4644. *Chairman.*] With reference to the point which the Honourable Member is now asking you about, I observe that a question was put, in number 4172, to Mr. Walker, with respect to the case of Thomas Dyer; have you any papers relating to that case?—I have not got the letter to me; he was removed voluntarily, at his own request.

4645. It was a mistake of Mr. Walker's to suppose that you had it?—Yes; it was another letter that I had.

4646. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are you of opinion that the law of removal affects the Scotch poor as grievously as it does the Irish; assuming that it affects either grievously?—

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grievously?—There is a condition with the Scotch poor which we have not with the Irish.

4647. What is that?—We can recover the money if the parties are not removed, but we cannot from Ireland.

4648. Generally speaking, you do not send the Scotch pauper, when he applies to your parish for relief, to the parish where he has a settlement?—We never send him home unless he is ordered home by his own parish.

4649. And you generally find that his own parish, unless a dispute arises as to the settlement, prefers to pay for him with you?—If he was a real object of parochial relief, they would give me an authority to relieve on their account; but if the inspector had the opinion that the man was not a proper object, he would be removed; I should recommend him to be ordered home; I should say, "I know this man well; he is lazy and will not work, send him home;" but generally speaking, the parish of settlement pays.

4650. If it be a hardship to send a man from the place where he applies for relief to the parish where he has a settlement, must not the law of removal operate more painfully upon the Irish pauper than it does upon the Scotch pauper, practically speaking?—He must feel it as a hardship, if he does not wish to go.

4651. I suppose a great many cases have come under your notice of Irish who have not wished to go to Ireland, and who have been removed against their will?—There has not been one case in the last two years, I could not remove them against their will.

4652. You left me under the impression the other day, that what is called voluntary removal might really be described as compulsory removal, because if the parties do not remove voluntarily, you enforce against them the law?—They could force me to an order at once, but they rarely do so.

4653. Would it be a difficult thing to get an order?—Yes.

4654. Would it be a difficult thing to get an order, where a person had no settlement?—I have had orders refused where they have had no settlement, and where the case has been as clear as possible.

4655. I am putting the question generally. I know that some humane judges may have taken a liberal view of the law; but, generally speaking, where a case of non-settlement is clearly established, and the party becomes a burthen, is not the decision in that case easily anticipated?—Yes; generally speaking, we should get an order.

4656. So that you may really call this voluntary removal, in many cases at least, a compulsory removal?—They are not very reluctant to go. I do not think that there have been half a dozen cases where they have manifested any reluctance to go.

4657. A great many of them have been removed voluntarily?—A great many of them have been removed voluntarily.

4658. They have been removed of their own free will?—Yes.

4659. Of their own free will they went to Ireland?—They raised no objection.

4660. If that be the case, does not that contradict what you said before, that a great number of Irish who came to Scotland, came to Scotland for the purpose of seeking relief?—Not at all.

4661. Explain that?—There may be 500 people come to Scotland for relief, and another 500 may be willing to go back.

4662. Do you know of your own knowledge that 500 came to Scotland last year to obtain relief?—I cannot state; I have stated that I have no means of ascertaining.

4663. It is a random supposition on your part?—I did not state it; I said there might be 500 who came wishing to get relief, and there might be, on the other hand, 500 wishing to go back.

4664. There might be 500 persons come into Scotland for the purpose of obtaining parochial relief, or there might not be one?—Yes.

4665. Colonel *Blair.*] It has been stated to you by the paupers themselves, on arriving in Scotland, that they came there for the purpose of seeking relief?—Some of them have stated that to me.

4666. With regard to the difference of the hardship which the Honourable Member for Dungarvon has referred to between a Scotch and an Irish pauper

you

you have a claim upon the Scotch parish where the Scotch pauper has a settlement?—Yes.

4667. And you relieve that pauper in Glasgow, obtaining the money from the parish of his settlement?—Generally speaking, we do.

4668. With regard to the Irish pauper, do you not think that the hardship is created by the country which has to support the Irish pauper?—Yes.

4669. If the same rule existed between Scotland and Ireland as exists in Scotch parishes, there would not be that objection to doing away with removal?—Certainly not.

4670. With regard to those who come over, the Honourable Member asked you a question with respect to Irish paupers not applying to the Irish workhouses for relief, and you stated that the reason for that is because they prefer the relief given in Scotland to that which they would get in Ireland?—I did.

4671. Therefore you understand that they do not like to be confined to the relief in Ireland, and would rather come to Scotland and get it?—Some have so stated to me.

4672. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Do you think that the relief in the workhouse, according to your discipline, is quite sufficient as a test with reference to Scotch paupers, there being no right on the part of able-bodied to have it?—Quite sufficient.

4673. Could you furnish the number of disputed cases of settlement in the course of either last year, or one or two years, and the expenses consequent on those disputes?—I could not from memory.

4674. But could you send it to the Committee?—I could.

4675. *Chairman.*] Will you be so good as to do so?—I will.

4676. Mr. *Maguire.*] Can you suggest any amendment in the present law of removal for the purpose of making it less stringent with reference to the industrious poor?—If there were some means of reclaiming the amount which is given to what might really be considered suitable characters to remain in the country, and not to be sent home, I think that that would meet the case.

4677. *Chairman.*] Some claim upon Ireland?—Some claim upon Ireland.

4678. Mr. *Maguire.*] If a person has supported himself for five years in Scotland, whether he be a good character or a bad character, he has a settlement?——Yes.

4679. And cannot be removed?—He cannot.

4680. This is, as I understand it, the law, and you will correct me if I am wrong, that an industrious man might be 20 or 30 years in Scotland, as we have had some cases stated, and yet not have a settlement, and be liable to removal?—Yes.

4681. Would you not think it fair towards an industrious man to give him a settlement if he had been five years industrially occupied in any part of Scotland?—Yes. If you give it to the Irish you must give it to the Scotch too; it applies to the Scotch as well as to the Irish; the Scotch lose their settlement just the same as the Irish.

4682. But the Scotch are not sent back to their native parish?—They may be.

4683. But they are not?—Some of them are.

4684. Very rarely, are they not?—Yes, that is what I wished to say.

4685. As a rule, the Irish are sent back?—Because we have no other remedy.

4686. As a rule, they are sent back?—No.

4687. They are sent back, either by compulsory removal or by voluntary arrangement?—Certainly not; only a portion of them; we relieve three or four times more than we send home.

4688. Are you certain that in every case the person so relieved has no settlement?—Hundreds of them.

4689. There were sent back, I think, last year nearly 6,000, one way or the other?—I am speaking of Glasgow.

4690. Would you suggest any alteration in the present law which makes a man who may have been 30 years supporting himself by his own industry in Scotland liable to removal?—I think a man who has been there that length of time ought not to be removed.

4691. What alteration of the law would you suggest?—There is no alteration which you can make of it without affecting the Scotch parishes as well, because you will otherwise put the Irish in a better position than the Scotch. If a Scotchman had been 20 or 30 years knocking about a particular part of the country, and

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had not got a settlement, he might be compelled to be removed to the very north of Scotland, he would feel it a very hard case for him, if an Irishman, who was his next-door neighbour, under the same circumstances, was allowed to remain.

4692. But that is a suppositious case?—No, there is the same law for both.

4693. In point of fact, a Scotchman does not knock about as an Irishman does?—Some of them do.

4694. Do they, as a rule?—No, they are not so migratory.

4695. Is not that habit of the Irish of advantage to Scotland, more than the contrary?—I am not prepared to say that.

4696. Supposing important works are to be carried on in a particular district, and the immediate population is not equal to the occasion, would not the removal of a large number of Irish to that place be an advantage to the promotion of those works?—There is no question of it, if they could not get the same number of Scotch.

4697. Are there not collieries in Ayrshire?—Yes.

4698. Would you be surprised to know that the number of Irishmen employed in the collieries is about three times the number of the Scotch?—Very likely.

4699. Do you know anything about it?—No.

4700. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to a statement which you made as to the inconveniences, in the present state of things in Glasgow, from the division of the four parishes, would public opinion, as far as you know, in Glasgow, or in other parts of Scotland, be very adverse to an extension of the area of chargeability, including, for the purposes of relief, a greater number, more particularly of town parishes, in a single district?—Amongst some very influential men, there would be a very strong objection against Glasgow being united to the neighbouring parishes, because it is more burdened with this class of people, and the rates are higher.

4701. The rates are higher in the City parish, or in the Barony, than in the two parishes of Gorbals and Govan?—They are.

4702. You have stated the practice which now exists as to the removal of Irish; I think in a former part of your evidence you said that upon your appointment you introduced a considerable alteration in the system which had previously prevailed; are the Committee to understand that your statement as to the non-removal of Irish who are affected merely by sickness, extends only to the period since you yourself were appointed?—I think it prevailed to a great extent before.

4703. At the same time that the number of removals has been materially diminished since your appointment?—They have been diminished very much.

4704. It is safe to infer, therefore, that a less stringent rule has been adopted by you than by your predecessors?—No doubt of it.

4705. Mr. *Dunlop.*] What do you do with parties who have not a temporary illness, but a chronic complaint; do you send them back?—It would depend entirely upon circumstances; if the medical officer thought that it would not be attended with any serious inconvenience to the parties, they might be sent back. We have parties in our house labouring under chronic affections that we do not attempt to remove.

4706. Sir *J. Pakington.*] You stated that you relieved in Glasgow more Irish paupers than you sent home?—Most decidedly.

4707. By what rule are you guided in deciding whether you will relieve or remove an Irish pauper?—We always relieve those that are objects of relief at the time, and then it is a subject of consideration afterwards whether to remove them or not.

4708. You are guided, I presume, in that, by the character and prospects of the individual?—Yes.

4709. By the law of Scotland, with regard to settlement, it is as competent to an Englishman or to an Irishman to gain a settlement by residence in Scotland, as to a Scotchman, is it not?—Quite so; there is no difference.

4710. Do you find that any large proportion of the Irish labourers who come over to Glasgow gain a settlement by a residence?—A great number.

4711. A very considerable proportion?—Yes, I should say a great number of them do; the better class of them that are all well able to work, and do work, and settle down and remain in the neighbourhood, get a settlement as well as a Scotchman; it makes no difference.

4712. When you state your belief that Irish paupers land in Scotland for the sake of the relief which they obtain under the Poor-law, I presume that is on your part solely a matter of inference, from the circumstances under which they come?—And the statements which they make.

4713. Have

4713. Have you ever received direct statements to that effect?—Yes; several times.

4714. From the paupers themselves?—From the paupers themselves.

4715. In many cases?—I have received them; I should not say many; they are not many in proportion to the vast number of paupers that we have; but I have on several occasions been told it by the paupers themselves.

4716. Is the number very considerable of those whom you believe to land with that object, either from their own statements, or from inference from the circumstances under which they come?—I should fancy, from the circumstances under which they come, that the number is very great, but not from the statements which they make, because I have not questioned them; it is not my department, but I have merely received those statements accidentally.

4717. But your belief, founded on one ground or another, is that the number of those who come with this object is considerable?—Yes.

4718. Colonel *Blair.*] I understood you also to state, on the previous occasion, that many come over looking for relatives and friends, but with no substantial means of obtaining a livelihood?—Yes.

4719. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is it not the practice of poor Irish persons who have obtained employment in Scotland, to send over small sums to assist relatives who have been left in Ireland to join them there?—I have heard of such cases.

4720. You do not happen to be aware of the sums which are sent over by money orders, or in that way?—No.

4721. You stated that the better class of Irish obtained a settlement; is not the distinction rather owing to the nature of the employment in which the poor person is engaged; if engaged in such works as railway works or mining works, the nature of the employment itself is, that he is liable to remove from place to place, and to lose the settlement which he might have gained if he had been engaged in a more fixed or sedentary employment?—Yes; but there are very few of those who trouble us.

4722. Still, it being true that a considerable proportion of the poorer Irish do obtain a settlement at present, is it not also true that a still larger number would obtain it if the nature of their employment did not force them to move about from place to place?—They would, most decidedly.

4723. So that the proportion of those who have obtained a settlement already does not fully represent the industrious and active portion of the Irish poor?—It does not represent the whole of them.

4724. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] You seem to think that there would be an objection to increasing the stringency of relief in the workhouses on the part of the people in Scotland?—There would be in Glasgow; I am sure of it.

4725. Do you think that that would extend to a proposal to have a workhouse there, conducted precisely according to the strict discipline and mode of relief practised in the Irish workhouses, which might be applicable to those who came over seeking relief, or who applied for relief when they came from Ireland or from England, within a certain limited time, say six months after their arrival?—That would require two workhouses, or two parts of the same workhouse; you must separate the paupers if you made any distinction in their treatment.

4726. Suppose that there was a separate workhouse for that purpose, not placed under the Poor-law authorities, but that the Poor-law authorities were to bring the person before the sheriff upon what we may call the charge of having come to that district for the purpose of being relieved there, and that the sheriff directed him to be placed in that workhouse; do you think that that would raise any objection on the part of the people in Scotland?—I am not prepared to say that it would; but I do not see that such a thing could work, except at an enormous expense; you must have a separate workhouse altogether, and separate officials.

4727. What number of people do you think there are who come to Glasgow in this way seeking relief?—I have already said that I could not state the number.

4728. By what parish is the cost of removal borne in Scotland, the parish removing, or the parish to which the party is removed?—The parish to which the party is removed.

4729. Mr. *Maguire.*] You say that you infer, from the circumstances under which some of those people come over, that their intention is to come for parochial relief; I understood that to be your answer to the Right honourable Baronet; is that the meaning of the answer which you gave?—It is.

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4730. Would you infer that a man came for the purpose of obtaining relief, if he landed in Glasgow without 6*d.* in his pocket?—No, I should not, because he might have relatives, or there might be many things.

4731. Suppose that a man had no relative in Scotland, and that he came to Glasgow without a sixpence in his pocket, would you infer from that, that that man came for the purpose of obtaining parochial relief, and not for the purpose of obtaining employment?—I should not infer that he came for the purpose of procuring relief; I should require something else to form that opinion than his merely coming and having no money.

4732. Is it not very possible that a man whose real object was to find employment might have exhausted all his resources in going from one country to the other?—Yes, quite possible, and it occurs frequently.

4733. Therefore pecuniary destitution is no criterion from which you can infer that he merely comes for the purpose of obtaining parochial relief?—Certainly not.

4734. *Chairman.*] Not of itself?—Certainly, not of itself.

4735. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Have cases come under your observation of individuals being landed upon the quay of Glasgow, and immediately committing acts of mendicancy?—Yes, in less than 10 minutes after they have landed; and before 24 hours have been over, they have been at our poorhouse; they have landed at the quay, and asked the way to the poorhouse.

4736. On examination into their cases, did you discover that they really had any object of labour?—None whatever.

4737. Therefore, in fact, they meant to maintain themselves by pauperism?—They had no other means; they came direct to the poorhouse. I have met them in the street, and they have asked me which was the way to the "townshouse," as it was called. I said, "What, do you want to be relieved? where do you come from?" "From Ireland." "When did you land?" "I have just landed from the Belfast boat."

4738. Sir *J. Pakington.*] You have already said, I think, that many such persons are physically incapable of labour?—They are.

4739. Colonel *Blair.*] Do many of those who are physically incapable state any reason for their coming over to Scotland?—We have not questioned them all, but several of those whom I have questioned stated that they were starving in their own country, and came to Glasgow for support.

4740. A good many come under those circumstances, who do not profess to come to look for relatives?—Several have stated so to me.

4741. When they arrive physically incapable of labour, they do not make any profession of looking for friends?—Many of them do not.

4742. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did you meet many of those cases last year?—I do not say many; I say I have met some cases.

4743. I now speak of last year; did you meet many of those cases of persons who, from their own statements, came over for the purpose of obtaining parochial relief?—I have already said that I could not give you their numbers, but that such cases had occurred.

4744. Have they occurred more frequently last year than the year before, or more frequently the year before than last year?—I do not say that they have occurred more frequently last year than the year before.

4745. Have they occurred less frequently?—I do not know; I have no data by which I could know the truth.

4746. Did you ask those persons whom you mentioned as having been found by you in the street, and as having asked you the way to the workhouse, their object in coming over?—No.

4747. Would not that have been a very natural inquiry on your part?—I asked them where they came from and what they wanted, but I did not ask them what they came over for.

4748. Is not this probable, that some of those persons might have come with a really good object, for the purpose of seeking employment, and finding themselves destitute, and their money exhausted when they came to Scotland, might rather have applied to the workhouse than go begging?—It might be so; but a man seeking work would not come to the poorhouse for it.

4749. Suppose a man did come from Ireland for work in Scotland, and found himself penniless when he arrived in Scotland, what do you think he would do first in order to obtain the object for which he came?—Seek for work.

4750. If he had not eaten anything during the day, and had no money to purchase

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purchase food, should he go to seek about for employment first, or for food to satisfy the cravings of his hunger?—He very likely would seek for food, but he would seldom come to a poorhouse to seek for food.

4751. Where would he seek for it?—I do not know, probably by begging; he would ask for it.

4752. Sir *J. Pakington.*] Has there been any material diminution in the number of Irish paupers applying for relief in Glasgow during the last two or three years?—I think there were not so many last year as before.

4753. Have you observed no change till last year?—There has been a gradual diminution, but it has not been so sensibly felt as last year.

4754. Was the diminution last year to any considerable extent?—Yes.

4755. Can you say to what extent?—I cannot.

4756. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it perceptible in the portion of this year which has passed?—By "last year" I mean up to the end of our year which has just closed.

4757. *Chairman.*] Have you any information to give the Committee with respect to the case of Rose Ann Cooney, referred to in Question 4182; she was alluded to by Mr. Walker the other day?—She was a soldier's wife, said to have been sent to Dublin against her will. I was quite surprised to hear that there was a complaint respecting any soldier's wife; for not one of them, and we had a great number of applications, was removed anywhere but at her own request and wish, and they are the last class of people concerning whom I should have expected a complaint; we had about 30 women and children, who came up in one day, after the regiment was ordered abroad, and there was a very strong feeling of sympathy for them, both in the committee and from all the officials; everything was done that could be done for their comfort; not one of them was removed anywhere, but at her own wish and request; one or two we refused to remove to where they wished, because we told them they had no legal claim upon that place, and we durst not do it; but we relieved them at the time, and allowed them to take their own course and go where they liked; but no soldier's wife, I am sure, was removed, except at her own request, and not at our suggestion.

4758. And all these that you name were relieved?—They were every one relieved; Rose Ann Cooney applied to us for a pass to Ireland for herself and two children; she actually asked to be sent over; the suggestion came from herself.

4759. What account did she give you?—That she belonged to Belfast, that she had come over to Scotland with her husband who was a soldier, and that she wished us to give her what she called a pass to Ireland, to get over to her friends, she was left there, she said, with two children, and that she had nothing to support her, but that if she got to Ireland she had friends who could support her.

4760. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Do you think there are a good many people who take advantage of the state of the law, and come to you for passes to Ireland, who if that law were changed could get over at their own expense?—There are some who do it, but we can generally see by their appearance those who try to impose upon us. The parties who try to avail themselves of the law, and to whom we will not give passes, are generally parties who have come over to work in the harvest, and who want to go back at the expense of the parish. Those we always refuse, because we can tell by their very appearance that they are not paupers, but working men.

Sir *John M'Neill*, called in; and further Examined.

Sir *J. M'Neill.*

4761. *Chairman.*] SINCE you were here the other day, have you had an opportunity of looking into the details of any of the cases which have been mentioned before this Committee, and into which I believe you wished to have an opportunity of looking?—I have not personally examined the details of those cases. I left that to Mr. Walker, who was summoned to attend.

4762. With regard to the operation of the law, as between Scotland and England, you are aware that that is one of the subjects to be inquired into by this Committee; have you had any complaints of the operation of that law as to removals from England to Scotland, or from Scotland to England?—One case especially, with respect to a removal from Scotland to England, occurred at Berwick the other day, which is now under investigation; at this moment I cannot call to mind any other case of complaint.

4763. Have you any suggestion with which you can favour the Committee with

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reference to an improvement in that law?—I have already stated to the Committee, on my former examination, my ideas as to some modes of improvement in the law, especially in respect of precautions in taking medical certificates, which was partly suggested by the occurrences in that very case at Berwick, where it appeared to me that the medical officer would not have given the certificate if he had known the manner in which the removal was to be conducted. I therefore proposed that the medical officer should be made responsible for stating in his certificate, in the event of a person being in delicate health, in what manner he considered it safe that he should be removed; that he should specify the mode of removal.

4764. The suggestions which you made with reference to the law as to removal to Ireland would probably be applicable, nearly all of them, to the removals to England?—I intended them to apply to all removals out of Scotland.

4765. Sir *J. Young.*] Were they not confined to the suggestion, that in every warrant of removal from Scotland there should be a specification of the causes of removal; a formal document, which the officer sent with the pauper removed should convey and present to the guardians of the union in Ireland or England to which the pauper was sent?—That was one of the suggestions.

4766. And secondly, that the parish removing should be at the whole expense of the removal?—Yes.

4767. Was there anything further?—I proposed also that previous notice should be sent by the parish in Scotland to the union to which it was proposed to remove; that it should be imperative upon the parties in that union workhouse to give an acknowledgment of having received the pauper, a certificate of the pauper having been delivered, and that the pauper should be examined by a medical officer previously to departure of the removing officer, immediately upon his arrival; that the removing officer should bring back a certificate of the delivery of the pauper, and a certificate of the medical man as to whether there were any indications of his having been injured in health by the mode of removal. I think, as far as I recollect, that was the substance of the suggestion; but it is all contained in the evidence which I formerly gave.

4768. *Chairman.*] With reference to that, at present I believe all that your magistrates or sheriff are required to do is to ascertain that the pauper was born in Ireland in the case of an Irish pauper, and has not gained a settlement in Scotland?—Yes.

4769. Does the particular union in Ireland within which he was born, or wherein he was residing, form any part of the inquiry of the sheriff?—It does not necessarily form any part of the inquiry; the simple establishment of the fact that he was born in Ireland, and has not obtained a settlement in Scotland, makes him legally removable.

4770. Then would you recommend that it should be a subject of inquiry by the magistrates, and be ascertained by them to what union in Ireland he belonged, having been born, or having resided there?—I should propose that it should be a subject of inquiry; but that the parochial Board in Scotland should be entitled to remove him to the union in which is situated the place to which he declares himself to belong. I would not throw on the parochial Board in Scotland the responsibility of discussing the true place to which he belongs; I think that would be demanding too much of them; but I would require the magistrate to examine the pauper as to the place of his birth or usual residence in England or in Ireland, and the parochial Board to remove the pauper to the union in which that place so declared by the pauper to be his place of birth or residence was situated.

4771. That place should appear upon the face of the adjudication of the magistrate as the authority for removing him there?—My suggestion was, that the order for removal should be to the workhouse of the union in which that place is situated. I attach great importance to his being removed to a place where there are authorities ready to receive him.

4772. And I think you suggested also that there should be a communication to those authorities that the removal was about to take place, and that a receipt, as it were, should be given for him when he was delivered over to them?—Exactly so. In many cases our parishes have, without any obligation to do so, sent an officer to accompany the pauper to the union to which he belonged in Ireland.

4773. That, however, is voluntary, as the law stands, is it not?—It is.

4774. Sir *J. Young.*] In Scotland, if a man has lived five years in a parish he obtains a settlement there?—Yes.

4775. But

4775. But if he quits that parish and goes to another, and does not return to the parish in which he has his settlement for more than four years, he loses that settlement?—Yes.

4776. How would the Scotch law deal with that man supposing he became a pauper?—He has lost the settlement acquired by residence, but he can never lose the settlement by birth; he goes then to the parish of his birth.

4777. Applying that position of the Scotch pauper to the Irish, how would you deal with an Irishman who had been perhaps 18 or 20 years in Scotland, or who had spent nearly all his life there, and had yet failed to acquire a settlement in any one parish, or having acquired it, had lost it?—I think that the present law permitting a settlement to be acquired by five years' residence is more advantageous to the Irish pauper than any law founded upon an abstract view of making him chargeable to the country in which he had given most of his labour; because if a man comes over from Ireland at the age of 30 or 35, and remains five years in Scotland industriously employed in one parish, he acquires a settlement; that man may have given 20 years of work in Ireland, and if you are to make him chargeable to the country to which he has given the greatest amount of work he would be removable from Scotland until he had given to Scotland as much work as he had previously given to Ireland. If you follow out the principle to its legitimate consequences, you must make him chargeable to the country to which he has given the greatest amount of work; so that any man coming over to Scotland, who had given 10 years of work in Ireland, would require to remain 10 years in Scotland before he had given an equal amount of work to Scotland; if he had given 15 years' work to Ireland he would require to have 15 years' work in Scotland before Scotland could fairly be made the preferable place. I think, therefore, that our present law of settlement which allows him to acquire a settlement by a residence of five years in one parish, is, upon the whole, more advantageous to him than the other would be, if followed out to its legitimate consequences.

4778. Taking that view, do you think that there would be any real danger to Scotland by saying that a man should be chargeable to that parish in Scotland in which he had spent, say 30 months out of the last three years?—I should object to that.

4779. Would not that exclude those who come over for the express purpose of begging or obtaining relief?—I am not sure that I understand the question, if it leads to that conclusion. I understand the question to be, whether it would be safe to allow an Irishman coming to Scotland to acquire a settlement in a parish in which he had resided for 30 months.

4780. Out of the last three years; 30 months of industrial residence?—That of course would imply a total change in the law of settlement, as regards Scotch paupers.

4781. Supposing it did, do you think that that would be a material disadvantage to Scotland?—It was only in 1844 that a commission appointed to investigate that amongst other questions, reported the expediency of extending the time required to obtain a settlement in Scotland from three years to five; a three years' residence was considered too short a time to entitle a man to a settlement, and the time was then extended by the Legislature to five years. To propose now to reduce it to 30 months, would certainly encounter in Scotland a most determined opposition.

4782. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is there not another view with reference to the law of settlement than that which you stated just now in reply to the Right honourable Baronet, namely, that the use of the power of removal is, after all, only to check vagrancy on the part of the poor, and that it may be desirable to exempt from removal those poor persons who came with the *bonâ fide* intention of seeking work, and who do obtain work; would not that view be compatible with a considerable decrease of the period of residence now required to attain irremovability?—I should look with apprehension upon any change in the law which held out greater inducements to persons to come from Ireland to Scotland.

4783. I am speaking not of Irish exclusively, but speaking generally?—One objection to the diminution of the time required to obtain a settlement, would be the facility which it would afford for persons coming from Ireland to obtain a settlement in Scotland; that would be one of my objections to it, on the ground that the proportion of pauperism in the Irish population of Scotland is very much larger than the proportion of pauperism in equal numbers of the other parts

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of the population. The Irish population produce, in proportion to their number, nearly double as many paupers as an equal amount of Scotch population produces.

4784. That arithmetical conclusion is derived from a comparison of the whole number of the Irish-born and Scotch-born population in Scotland?—It is derived from a comparison of the Irish-born population in five of our western counties, of which I obtained an account from the census return, and the number of poor chargeable in the year 1853, the last for which we have returns in those counties, and the proportion of paupers to the Irish population which that shows.

4785. You are aware, perhaps, that the proportion of pauperism in Glasgow appears to be 18 per cent. of the Scotch-born population, and 25 per cent. of the Irish-born population?—It may be so.

4786. Have you considered, however, that the great mass of the Irish population belong to the working and poorest classes, whereas the Scotch population include all classes?—That is true.

4787. Is it therefore fair to conclude that there is such a very great difference between the amounts of pauperism?—With the permission of the Committee, I will state a return which I have prepared: "Proportion of persons born in Ireland and their dependants who were chargeable to the parishes in five of the western counties of Scotland during the year 1853." I may mention that the number of persons born in Ireland is taken from the census returns. To that number I have added one-fourth for children born in Scotland; I have taken one-fourth, because I find that the whole number of children under 14, which is the age of emancipation in Scotland, is as nearly as possible one-third of the population. In 12 of the population you have four under 14. I think I have taken a very high proportion when I assume that three out of those four are born in Scotland. The numbers, therefore, will stand thus: In those five counties the persons born in Ireland were 145,183; add for children born in Scotland one-fourth, that is 36,295, it gives, born in Ireland and their dependants 181,478. Paupers relieved in 1853, 17,651, which gives 1 in 10·28. Proportion of paupers amongst the persons born in Ireland and their dependants, and amongst all other persons in the county of Lanark during the year 1853, born in Ireland, 89,330; add one-fourth for children born in Scotland, 22,332; making the total born in Ireland and their dependants 111,662; all other persons in the county, 421,507; making the total population 533,169, as given in the census. Then the Irish population is 111,662; of these there are paupers 10,923, being 1 in 10·22; other persons, 421,507; of these there are paupers 21,051, being equal to 1 in 20·02. The Irish population gives 1 in 10·22, the other part of the population gives 1 in 20·02; total population, 533,169; total paupers, 31,974, equal to 1 in 16·67. Therefore the presence of the Irish poor raises our proportion of pauperism from 20·02 to 1 in 16·67.

4788. In those districts to which that return applies, is it not alleged that the Irish working class are engaged in the rudest and severest and most trying descriptions of labour, and is it not true that that class in general furnish in every country the largest proportion of pauperism?—I do not think that the persons employed in those kinds of occupations furnish the largest number of Irish paupers in Scotland.

4789. Do you know that it has been stated that in some collieries the Irish are three to one?—I am perfectly aware of that; but I believe, and I think I could make it appear, that the proportion of pauperism is not to be attributed to the legitimate consequences of any occupation, but to the arrival in Scotland of persons who prefer relief in Scotland to relief in the form in which it is administered in Ireland; that is an inference from facts which I will now state. I do not state it as a matter ascertained from personal investigation; I state it as an inference, of the justice of which the Committee will judge when I state the facts: "Comparative view of the proportion of paupers to the population in England and in Ireland on the 1st January 1853 and the 1st January 1854." I have taken the comparison with England, because in England there is no deficiency of poor houses:—618 unions in England and Wales; population, 16,250,861; paupers, 807,546, equal to 1 in 20·12. Ireland, population, 6,552,055; paupers, 141,822, equal to 1 in 46·31 of the population of Ireland. 1st January 1854—England and Wales; population as before; paupers, 818,822, equal to 1 in 19·24. Ireland; population as above; paupers, 100,746, equal to 1 in 65·03. Those numbers which I have now given include the able-bodied poor; that is of course a more fluctuating element of pauperism than the disabled poor. Of the disabled poor,

poor, a large proportion are inevitably paupers; I shall therefore take the numbers for 1853, excluding the able-bodied paupers: 618 unions, as above; paupers, 679,927, equal to 1 in 24·04. Ireland, as above, paupers, 98,196, equal to 1 in 66·79. Scotland, 14th May 1853; population, 2,888,742; paupers, 120,391, equal to 1 in 23.99.

4790. Does not that include the whole number of paupers in Scotland?—It does; we have, therefore, of persons who are not able-bodied relieved in England 1 in 24·04; we have, relieved in Scotland, 1 in 23·99, pretty nearly the same thing; and we have, relieved in Ireland, 1 in 66·79 in 1853.

4791. Sir *J. Pakington.*] Are you founding these calculations upon the census of 1851?—These calculations are founded upon the census of 1851.

4792. I understood you to give the population of England and Wales as 16 millions odd?—Of 618 unions.

4793. That accounts for the difference between that population and the gross population of the census of 1851?—Exactly so. I may mention that these numbers are taken from the official returns.

4794. *Chairman.*] Poor-law returns?—Yes.

4795. And, as we know, a certain part of this country is not in union?—Exactly so. On the 1st of January 1854, in the 618 unions in England and Wales the paupers were 682,773, equal to 1 in 23·80, being a slight increase upon the previous year. At the same date, the paupers in Ireland, exclusive of the able-bodied, were 71,344, being 1 in 91·82 of the population. Now, looking to the rate of wages in Ireland; looking to the whole circumstances of the country, lately emerged from famine and wretchedness, I do say that any man who has turned his attention to the subject must hold that a system which relieves only 1 in 91 of the population, excluding the able-bodied, is a system which must leave an enormous amount of inevitable destitution unrelieved. Therefore, when I compare the proportion of pauperism amongst the Irish poor in Scotland with the proportion of pauperism amongst the Irish in their own country, I am forced to conclude that of the persons who have immigrated from Ireland to Scotland, a very large proportion are the least efficient and most helpless portion of the population which furnishes so enormous a proportion of paupers; and now when they have been removed from Ireland to such an extent as to admit of relieving only 1 in 91, I object to the doors being shut against their going back, and to their being saddled permanently as a burthen upon Scotland.

4796. Mr. *J. Ball.*] It appears from the evidence of many of the witnesses before this Committee, that although the legal right to relief in Scotland is confined to the disabled poor, yet a considerable portion of those relieved are not so disabled?—A considerable proportion of those relieved are persons who are temporarily disabled; that is, persons who having been able-bodied have become sick.

4797. It is maintained that a considerable number are in no respect disabled, but merely destitute, and are relieved at the discretion of the parochial Board?—To a certain extent that was done in the Highlands during the pressure of the famine in 1847.

4798. The statements which you have made to the Committee, both on this day and on a former day, being returns of the amount of pauperism, amongst both the Irish and the Scotch, are furnished to your office by the local authorities in Scotland, are they not?—They are furnished to the Board of Supervision by the inspectors of the poor in each parish.

4799. They are taken from the books which are kept, I presume, in each parish?—They are taken from the books in each parish, I presume.

4800. In those books are you aware whether each separate case of application for relief is separately entered?—It ought to be so; they are required to keep a list of all applications.

4801. Are these returns obtained by extracting from those books each separate case of application for relief standing against the name of an Irish-born or Scotch-born pauper?—I understand they are.

4802. Therefore these returns are not returns of the total number of individuals who have applied for relief, but returns of the number of cases of applications for relief?—Pardon me, they are returns of the number of persons who have applied for relief, with the number of their dependants.

4803. If it be true that that is, in the towns of Scotland especially, a return of cases of persons who have received relief, and those persons had applied over and

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over again for relief, they would appear in that return not once, but as many times as they applied?—They would appear in that return not more than once in one year.

4804. Are you able to state that the persons who have kept the return have been careful to ascertain whether the same name appears more than once in the parish books?—I understand the returns to have been made by the very laborious process of following out each individual name through all its stages.

4805. Are those returns made in pursuance of instructions from your office?—They are.

4806. Did you instruct the inspectors to carry on that operation, to trace out each name?—There were no special instructions sent when the returns were forwarded, but the heading of the return itself sufficiently states what the object of the return is. I may mention in respect to the returns, that the only error which I have detected in the returns, the only deviation from my intention in the manner of making up the returns, has been that in a considerable number of cases, instead of stating in each year the whole number of Irish paupers chargeable, the inspectors have stated only the new cases in each year. That I have said nothing about, nor should I have thought it worth while to bring it to the notice of the Committee if these inquiries had not been made; but now that I have been questioned upon the subject, I think it right to state that there is, I am satisfied, that deficiency in the number which arises from some of the inspectors giving only new cases in each year, instead of carrying on the old cases, which was my intention.

4807. Can you state whether that observation applies to the returns from the large towns, or only to some of the rural districts?—I think not to the returns from the large towns; I do not think that it forms a material element. Whatever change it makes, whatever defect there is, is to diminish the apparent number of Irish poor, not to increase it. That is all I wish to say.

4808. In the various returns furnished to your Board, do not the same cases occur, under the head of "Casual Poor;" and when they come afterwards to be registered by the parochial Board, do they not appear in the registered list?—Many of them do.

4809. In the returns which are published in the reports of the Board of Supervision, where is the cost of removal included in the general statements of account?—I apprehend under the head of "Relief;" but I do not know whether under the head of "Relief" or "Management," for we have never inquired into the question.

4810. You have not at any time obtained any returns as to the cost of removals separately?—I have not.

4811. Therefore we are to understand that there is in fact no return of the separate cost of removal?—There is not; we are not in a condition to afford information as to the cost of removal. I may state, generally, that in consequence of inquiries which I made incidentally, I learned that the average cost of removing Irish paupers from Edinburgh was about 15*s.* per adult.

4812. *Chairman.*] To the Irish port?—To the Irish port; that is, counting two children as equal to one adult.

4813. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Have you any information which would enable the Committee to compare the amount of real pressure of the rates for the relief of the poor upon the cities and upon the rural districts in Scotland?—In consequence of a communication that was made to me, I applied for and obtained the rates for Edinburgh and Glasgow; for Edinburgh for the last considerable number of years; for Glasgow for the last four years, being the rates upon real property. The assessment in Glasgow has not been upon real property except within the last four years; formerly it was upon means and substance.

4814. Does the return for Glasgow include the four parishes?—No, the City parish Glasgow only; the rates in Glasgow were, in 1850–51, 12½ per cent.; in 1851–52, 12½ per cent.; 1852–53, 12 per cent.; 1853–54, 2*s.* 1*d.* per pound.

4815. Are you aware whether those rates are applied exclusively to the relief of the poor?—They are applied exclusively to the relief and management of the poor.

4816. Is there not a school in Glasgow which may be considered as partly pauper, namely, the ragged school?—That has nothing to do with the poor fund.

4817. Sir *J. Pakington.*] Is not it maintained by an extra rate?—It is not maintained by a rate, as far as I know.

4818. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Can you state the rates for Edinburgh?—I can; the rates for

for Edinburgh go further back, because in Edinburgh the rate has been all along upon real property. For the year commencing 30th of September 1845, the rate was 9 ¼ per cent.; for the year commencing 30th of September 1846, ending 30th of September 1847, 11 ½ per cent.; 1847–48, 11 per cent.; 1848–49, 12 ½ per cent.; 1849–50, 10 per cent. There then was made a change in the termination of the financial year, which made it necessary to raise a supplemental assessment for eight months. It was determined to close the financial year on the 14th of May, instead of, as formerly, on the 30th of September. There was therefore laid on as an assessment, from the 30th of September 1850 to the 14th of May 1851, an assessment of 4 ½ per cent.; then for the year commencing 14th May 1851, ending 14th May 1852, the assessment was 7 ½ per cent.; 1852–53, seven per cent.; 1853–54, 6 ⅝ per cent.; 1854–55, 6 ⅜ per cent.

4819. In your comparison between the apparent amount of relief given in Ireland and in Scotland, have you referred to the amount of the rates raised in the great towns of Ireland, and compared them with those in Scotland?—I have not. My only object was to ascertain the amount of that which I consider is, to a great extent, inevitable pauperism, which is at present relieved in Ireland. I find that of the disabled portion of the population, those who are not able-bodied, the present system of poor relief in Ireland relieves only 1 in 91; whereas in England and in Scotland the same class are relieved to the number of 1 in 24 of the population.

4820. If a working man in Scotland is seized by sickness, and has not sufficient means to provide himself with medical advice and medicines, he is driven to apply for relief to the parish?—He is.

4821. Are you aware that in Ireland there is a legal system of medical relief irrespective of the relief given to paupers; and that through that system it would appear that upwards of 600,000 persons were relieved during the last year?—Yes.

4822. Does not that completely alter the conclusion which you have drawn upon comparing the amount of relief given to the poor?—Not completely, because the number of persons relieved in Scotland is the number of persons who have received pecuniary relief, who are chargeable to the parish. Our paupers who receive merely medical relief in our parishes are attended by a medical man, who is paid by salary for his attendance, whether the number be great or small; those persons who receive only medical assistance are not, I think, included in the returns of persons relieved; they do not enter into the number of 1 in 24.

4823. Then, in point of fact, there is a system of medical relief in Scotland?—There is in almost every parish. In some parishes of the Highlands there is no resident medical man, and it is impossible there to afford relief in the same way; but the general rule in Scotland is, that every parish has its medical officer; that medical officer is paid by a salary, and it matters not to the parochial Board how many persons he is called upon to attend; his salary remains the same.

4824. Does he not merely attend, but supply medicine?—In some parishes he supplies medicine; in other parishes he is supplied with medicine.

4825. It is not necessary for the person attended by him to apply to the inspector or parochial Board for the purpose of receiving the medicines which he orders?—Not at all.

4826. Is relief which is obtained in the shape of advice and medicines from the medical officer so far considered as parochial relief, as to expose the person receiving it to removal?—I apprehend that if he were chargeable, that is to say, if it were necessary to expend money in his relief, he would be legally removable.

4827. So that, in effect, a person obtaining medicines during his sickness, is legally removable in consequence of it?—A person obtaining medicines through the inspector would be no doubt chargeable to the parish, but I should very much doubt whether any case has occurred in which a person has been removed merely upon that sort of constructive chargeability; I do not believe it.

4828. Are you of opinion, whether that be the case or not, that the law should not permit removal in a case of that description?—I would be unwilling to make any change in the law in that respect, because I foresee that it would lead to a number of disputes upon the question, whether relief had been given or not; and as our parochial Boards have not abused the power of removal which the law now gives them, having removed only one in three of the Irish paupers who are legally removable, as I stated formerly to the Committee, I do not see any necessity for making any change in the law in that respect.

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4829. With regard to the removals which are classed under the head of voluntary removals, it would appear from the evidence given here, that a considerable proportion cannot be considered as really voluntary, as indicating a desire on the part of the paupers to remove; but on the other hand, that a considerable number are voluntary, in the sense that the persons go willingly and at their own desire; is that your impression?—Certainly it is. My impression is, that a great number of those removals which are classed as voluntary, are a compromise between the parish and the pauper, wherein the pauper agrees to go upon the payment of his expenses, without putting the parish to the trouble of obtaining a warrant. I have no doubt that it is very often a compromise. On the other hand, I have no doubt that a considerable number of removals take place by desire of the pauper; not a great number, but a considerable number.

4830. So far as that considerable number of removals which take place by desire of the pauper is concerned, is it not true that the system of removing Irish poor from some of the large towns in Scotland has a tendency to bring an influx of the class of persons who desire removal into those towns?—I do not believe that the number is sufficient to draw any inference of that kind from it. The number of the removals from Edinburgh on application of the parties is very small indeed. As to Glasgow, I cannot speak. Mr. Adamson might have spoken more clearly than I can upon that subject.

4831. In Glasgow it would appear, from the returns with which you have furnished the Committee, that the number apparently voluntary is very large?—Yes.

4832. And it would appear from evidence that the number who really desire to go is considerable?—Yes.

4833. Is it not an inconvenience attending the system of removal that it does tend to cause a certain amount of influx into the large towns?—It may perhaps tend to produce a greater number than would otherwise go, but I would trust to our parochial Boards to take care of themselves in that particular. I think they will not be easily induced to assist parties to go who have the means of going themselves. I think they will protect themselves in that way.

4834. The Committee are to conclude from your opinions expressed here, that you are of opinion that in any case the system of removing Irish poor to certain ports in Ireland, unless they happen to belong by birth to those ports, is one that ought to be discontinued?—I have stated as distinctly as I could to the Committee, that in my opinion removals out of Scotland ought to be removals to the union workhouse of the union in which the pauper represents himself to have been born, or to have been residing.

4835. Have you considered what description of legal protection you would afford to parishes in Ireland against improper removals, which might probably follow from the introduction of that system; I mean owing to erroneous statements of the paupers themselves?—I have not considered that question; but if the suggestion which I offered as to notices were adopted, I think it would afford the Irish parishes the opportunity of interposing before the removal actually took place.

4836. You would propose to give them the means of interposing?—I would propose that they should use the means which they now possess of interposing.

4837. Will you be kind enough to state what means they now possess for interposing before the removal takes place?—If they have notice that a removal is to take place, and they consider that removal illegal, they have it in their power to apply for an interdict against the removal, which suspends the removal until the question of the legality or illegality is determined.

4838. I apprehend that those provisions do not at present extend to Ireland?—I apprehend that a Board of Guardians in Ireland would be perfectly entitled to apply for a suspension in a court in Scotland against the removal of any pauper whom it was proposed to remove illegally to their union.

4839. You would at least think it necessary to make that a legal application of the funds of an Irish union, which it is not at present?—That is a defect in the Irish law which I do not pretend to deal with.

4840. *Chairman.*] To what court should the application be made?—I do not know whether sheriffs can grant interdicts, but the Court of Session can.

4841. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Has your attention been directed to the state of the law as between England and Ireland, with reference to appeals on the part of Irish guardians?—

guardians?—I have no knowledge of the relations between England and Ireland in respect to the Poor-laws.

4842. Is it your opinion that such a system of international appeals can be conducted practically, so as to give satisfaction?—I do not know the mode of proceeding in English courts sufficiently to enable me to offer an opinion.

4843. On the whole, do you look upon that as the practical remedy for any abuse which might arise from a state of the law such as you propose?—I think it would be desirable to place the removals to Ireland on something like the same footing as our inter-parochial removals are placed; but I think that it would be necessary to guard it in this way: that in the event of a union in Ireland obtaining an interdict to prevent the removal of a pauper, and its being ultimately determined that that pauper was really removable to that union, the parish in Scotland should be entitled to recover the expenses of the maintenance of that pauper from the date when the interdict was applied for.

4844. In case of such an appeal as you contemplate, on an interdict being tried in Scotland, would you put the *onus* of proof upon the Scotch parish proposing to remove the pauper to Ireland?—It would depend upon the evidence which was before the court that ordered the removal. If an inspector goes to a court, and applies for an order of removal, and there is sufficient evidence that the person was born in Ireland, and the only question arises as to whether he is properly removable to that particular union, there can be no doubt that he is properly removable to some union in Ireland, if he was born in Ireland, and I should propose to leave those two unions to decide it between themselves; it then becomes a question between the two Irish unions. But in a case in which it was alleged that the pauper was not legally removable to Ireland at all, it would then become a question between the Irish union and the Scotch parish.

4845. Has your attention been directed to the fact, that of the Irish poor in Scotland a very large proportion come over under such circumstances that they must have left their places of birth in Ireland at an early age?—I have no very exact information upon that subject; but my impression is, that a very large proportion of the persons born in Ireland now residing in Scotland have come over since 1846. I think that of the Irish population which was residing in Scotland a very considerable number have emigrated to America, and that their places have been filled up in a great many instances by persons who came over from Ireland during the period of distress in that country.

4846. Are the Committee to understand that you do not propose any alteration of the law which would have the effect of preventing an Irish working man, no matter how long he may have lived in Scotland, and how long he may have maintained himself by working, if he has once lost his settlement, under the present state of the law, from being removable to Ireland?—I do not see any way, although it may involve hardship, towards a satisfactory remedy.

4847. The only change which you do recommend is, that instead of sending him to the nearest port in Ireland, he should be removed to the place where he may have been born in Ireland?—Exactly so; and that all practicable precautions should be taken to prevent illegal removals, and to prevent removals injurious to health.

4848. Sir *J. Young.*] Do you wish to convey to the Committee the impression, from the preference which is given to the relief afforded to the poor in Scotland over the relief afforded to the destitute in Ireland, that the poor relief in Ireland is inadequate?—I do not at all mean to say it is inadequate. I have no intention of expressing an opinion as to the adequacy or inadequacy of the relief; all I mean to say is this, that a system which relieves only 1 in 91 of the population as disabled poor is a system which will necessarily, whatever be the cause, prevent their applying for relief. I assume that if they apply for relief and are entitled to it, they get it; of that I have no doubt; but I say that a system which is so stringent that it prevents more than 1 in 91 as disabled poor applying for relief in Ireland, is a system which has a tendency to press them out of Ireland.

4849. On what data is that conclusion founded; at the present moment there are 98,000 poor in the workhouses in Ireland, and the whole population is a little over 6,000,000?—You will observe that the number of poor in Ireland are divided into two classes; into the able-bodied, and those who are not able-bodied. When I say that 1 in 91 of the population only is relieved, I mean that 1 in 91 only of the population, excluding the able-bodied, is relieved.

4850. You are, perhaps, aware that in the Irish Poor-law returns paupers are

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classed as able-bodied who are not able-bodied labourers?—That may be. I take the returns as I find them. I find a certain class put as able-bodied; I strike them out. I do the same with the English returns. I compare the two, and I find that whereas in England 1 in 24 as disabled poor is relieved, 1 in 91 only of the population is relieved as a disabled pauper in Ireland.

4851. Would it make any difference in your inference if you were informed by authority that it is not considered that at this moment there is an able-bodied labourer obtaining poor-law relief in Ireland?—That would make no difference in my opinion, because my inferences are founded, not upon that fluctuating proportion of pauperism which consists of the able-bodied, but upon that more permanent element of pauperism which consists of the disabled.

4852. How far is your opinion upon the question modified by the fact, that there is a very extensive system of out-door medical relief in Ireland?—We have in Scotland also an extensive system of out-door medical relief.

4853. But neither so systematic nor so general as in Ireland?—It may be that it is not so general; but still the difference is enormous. Comparing England and Ireland, England relieves as disabled poor 1 in 24 of her population; Ireland relieves as disabled poor 1 in 91 of her population. It is impossible, I think, to reconcile these figures with any other consideration than this, that the disposition to seek relief is checked, and very probably most beneficially checked, in Ireland by the stringency of the mode in which it is administered, and that persons must submit to a vast amount of misery and hardship rather than apply for relief, which is given almost exclusively in the workhouse. I have not the smallest doubt that numbers of persons, rather than apply for relief so administered, come over to Scotland, where relief is obtained on more favourable terms. That opinion is confirmed when I look to the proportion of pauperism amongst the Irish who have come over to Scotland. I find amongst the Irish who have come over to Scotland that the proportion of pauperism is 1 in 10; and I find that amongst the poor remaining in Ireland the proportion of pauperism to the population is 1 in 91. Now I cannot look at those figures without receiving a very strong impression that those two populations must be composed of different classes, or at least must include a large number of different classes of persons. Then it has been stated to the Committee, that the emigration which is taking place from Ireland gives us a security against the influx of Irish into Scotland. I confess I should consider the security much greater if there were no emigration going on from Ireland, and if no Irishman left his own country. While emigration is going on at its present rate from Ireland, does anybody doubt that we shall get our share of it? Is it possible to doubt, while the people are pouring out from Ireland to America, to the colonies, and in every direction, that a large number will also come to Scotland?

4854. Do you suppose either that Scotland affords such inducements to emigrate, or that such sums of money are remitted from Scotland to Ireland as to make it at all an analogous argument between Scotland and America?—I do not think that any of those leaving Ireland come to Scotland in preference to going to America, unless they have relations there; but there are a large class who have not the means of going to America, and do not receive the necessary assistance to go to America; those are the very class that I anticipate would come to Scotland, and the very last class that I should wish to see there.

4855. Whatever may be the case in Scotland, is it not the fact that in England every person who receives medical relief from the parish is set down as a pauper?—I am not able to answer that question; I am really ignorant of what the rules are in England; I never had occasion to examine them.

4856. Still if it should be so, would it not alter the comparison as between England and Ireland?—No doubt it would; to what extent, I am not prepared to say.

4857. Mr. *Maguire.*] I think you stated that many of those who emigrated from Ireland to Scotland at an early period had left Scotland for the United States or Canada?—So I am given to understand: I do not know it of my own knowledge; but I am given to understand that a considerable number have gone.

4858. The inducements offered to residence in Scotland were not sufficient to counterbalance the attractions of those more distant places?—I think that a very considerable number of Irish have come to Scotland for the purpose of earning the means of going to America.

4859. Do you think that that desire to emigrate to Australia Canada, or

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The States is likely to diminish or to increase; I allude to the Irish in Scotland?—I have no means of knowing.

4860. But you say that a considerable number of Irish-born industrious people did leave Scotland for America?—A considerable number of Irish-born persons left Scotland for America. I have no doubt of that.

4861. Do not you think that it is probable, inasmuch as many of those who are resident in Scotland have relations living in those distant places, that many others will also follow the example set them, as you say?—I have no means of forming an opinion upon that.

4862. Is it not probable?—I do not know whether it is probable or not. I cannot pretend to say.

4863. Is it not as probable as many other inferences which you have stated before the Committee?—I think not; I have no means of forming an opinion at all.

4864. It would seem that you are more alarmed than consoled, as it were, by the diminution of pauperism in Ireland; that the diminution of pauperism in Ireland excites your apprehension rather than otherwise?—I am not aware that I said so.

4865. If I understand you, you argue that the smaller the number of paupers in the Irish workhouses, the greater reason you have for an apprehension of future burden to Scotland?—I apprehend that the system pursued in Ireland having reduced the number of disabled persons in Ireland who require relief to 1 in 91 of the population, it has driven out of Ireland, partly into Scotland, a very considerable number of the most helpless portion of the population of Ireland.

4866. What proof have you of that?—My only proof of that, and I stated it at the commencement, is, that the population of Ireland furnishes of disabled poor only 1 in 91, whereas the Irish population in Scotland furnishes 1 in 10.

4867. Then if the number of that class by the returns of next year were greatly diminished, your apprehension would be increased?—It is not an apprehension of the number who will now come, but it is an apprehension that the door may be shut against the getting rid of those who have come already.

4868. As to the Scotch poor, how do the Scotch people regard the change in the law; the former law, I understand, giving an irreversible settlement by an occupation of three years, and the new law giving a settlement by a residence of five years, liable afterwards to be broken?—I have not heard of any complaints. I think that there is not a town in Scotland which would not resist, as far as it could, any reduction in the time necessary to acquire a settlement. I have before stated to the Committee, that I do not believe that the landed proprietors and persons interested in country property would object to it, because the tendency of pauperism is to flow into the towns; but I am perfectly satisfied that there is not a considerable town in Scotland which would not resist to the utmost by all the means in its power any attempt to diminish the number of years necessary to acquire a settlement.

4869. Was not that change from three to five years made rather with a view to the Irish than to the Scotch?—Not in the slightest degree in reference to the Irish, because the recommendation of the Commissioners was, that the Irish should not acquire a settlement under any circumstances.

4870. What was the advantage to the people in Scotland of changing the law as I have stated?—The advantage to the people in Scotland was this, that the towns which complained of being overwhelmed by paupers from the country were, to a certain extent, protected from the influx of rural paupers, by the extension of the term necessary to acquire a settlement in a town.

4871. Supposing a Scotchwoman marries an Irishman residing in Scotland, and that that Irishman is removed because he has applied for relief before he has obtained his settlement, does that Scotchwoman follow the settlement of her husband, or has she the advantage of her maiden settlement?—My impression is, that she follows the settlement of her husband.

4872. I believe Mr. Caird, who is considered as an authority, is very clear upon that head?—Yes.

4873. Have you any reason to think that the condition of Ireland has considerably improved of late years?—I believe the condition of Ireland to have improved more than that of any other country in Europe, within the last few years.

4874. Have you looked at the last Report of the Poor-law Commissioners?—I have.

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4875. Did you see it stated there that agricultural employment was more continous than it ever had been before?—I have no doubt it is; but at the same time I am bound to infer from the rate of wages, that the number of hands is more than is required.

4876. Did you look over the returns of the various inspectors who were applied to?—I have not examined them in detail; but I am aware that the general rate of agricultural wages in Ireland is from 5*s.* to 6*s.* a week.

4877. Did you see it stated there that the wages were steadily on the increase?—I have no doubt that they must be on the increase, but they are still a very long way below what we consider fair wages in Scotland.

4878. Did you see it stated that in some places they had risen as high as 8*s.* a week?—I did see that stated; but it appeared to me that that was in the vicinity of a considerable town, and I do not consider that that is a fair test of the rate of wages.

4879. Did you see it stated that in some parts where the farmers still gave very small wages, they would even after the harvest be obliged to give what were considered fair wages in consequence of the still increasing drain of emigration, and the want of labourers?—I do not know what are considered fair wages in Ireland. I have seen a great number of statements upon the subject, and I believe the rate of wages to be steadily increasing in Ireland; but I believe that the population of Ireland must still be reduced by nearly two millions before the wages will rise to what they are now in Scotland and in England.

4880. Have you read the opinion of Sir Robert Kane, as to what ought to be the proportion of population to the extent and capability of Ireland?—I have not; but I have read some other observations upon the subject, to which I attach great value; a comparison of the population in Ireland and in England, with reference to the number of acres, either arable or improvable, in both countries; and, comparing Ireland with the most agricultural of our counties in England and in Scotland, I find that the proportion of acres to each individual is materially different in the two countries. This is not mine; it is from a far more competent person.

4881. *Chairman.*] What is that paper from which you are now proceeding to read?—This is an extract from an essay written by Mr. Greig.

4882. Will you read it?—" Ireland is, in an overwhelming degree, an agricultural country; manufactures, on the whole, scarcely occupy and support a larger portion of the people there than they do in the most agricultural counties of England. So long, therefore, as this continues, it is unreasonable to expect her to support a denser population than those counties. Moreover, her soil, taken as a whole, is scarcely so good, and certainly not so productive, as that of the best agricultural counties of England; even when the lakes and absolutely unimprovable land have been deducted, a large quantity of bog and stony land remains, which though capable of improvement for pasture, is very poor, and reduces the average capabilities of the soil to a very great extent. It appears from the last careful official survey, that of the 20,808,271 statute acres of which the surface of Ireland consists, 6,290,000 acres are unimproved bog and mountain land; of these 1,425,000 are improvable for tillage; 2,330,000 are improvable for pasture only; and 2,535,000 are absolutely hopeless. Now with these facts before us, let us compare the population maintained per acre in our purely agricultural counties, selecting those which are most free from poor mountain and stony land, with the numbers which, even in its present depopulated condition, Ireland is expected to maintain.

COUNTIES.	STATUTE ACRES.	POPULATION.	ACRES PER HEAD.
Hereford	552,320	99,112	5·17
Lincoln	1,671,040	400,266	4·16
Dorset	643,840	177,597	3·63
Northampton	650,240	213,784	3·13
Rutland	95,360	24,277	3·99
York (North Riding)	1,315,200	194,624	6·72
Wilts	874,880	241,003	3·62
Devon	1,654,400	572,207	2·83
Buckinghamshire	472,320	143,670	3·28
Sussex	938,240	339,428	2·80
		Average	3·97

It

It appears, then, that the average often of the peculiarly agricultural counties of England, whose soil is fully equal to the average, allows nearly four acres to each individual. The mountainous districts of Cumberland and Westmoreland allow 5 ½ and 8 ½ respectively. Now let us see what is the case in Ireland, leaving out only, in order to make the comparison a fair one, the absolutely unimprovable land, but including all reported to be available for any purpose either of tillage or pasture.

PROVINCES.	AVAILABLE ACRES.	POPULATION.	ACRES PER HEAD.
Leinster - - - - - - - -	4,625,000	1,667,771	2·78
Ulster - - - - - - - -	4,550,000	2,004,289	2·28
Munster - - - - - - - -	5,040,000	1,831,817	2·79
Connaught - - - - - - - -	3,430,000	1,011,917	2·39
		Average - - -	2·71

Thus, while the agricultural districts of well-cultivated England do not pretend to support or employ a population of more than one to every four acres, ill-cultivated Ireland still retains, but, alas! can scarcely be said either to employ or support, one person for every 2 ¾. In 1846, her population was one person to every 2 ⅛ acres. In order to assimilate it to that of the rural districts of England, it would require to be reduced to 4,500,000, or 2,000,000 below its present amount. Let us ponder those figures well, and consider their full meaning."

4883. When was that published?—It was published in a review originally, but I had it directly from the gentleman who wrote it.

4884. Have you had it recently from him?—He communicated it to me at the time when the thing appeared, which was about two years ago.

4885. Was it in the Edinburgh Review?—I forget what review it was in.

4886. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was the census of 1851 then published?—Yes.

4887. He makes no account for towns in those counties?—He makes no account for towns in the English counties either.

4888. What proportion of the people in Ireland do you know were engaged in agriculture?—He seems to conceive, and I suppose justly, for he has great connexion with Ireland himself, that the proportion of the population, as he states, engaged in manufactures in Ireland is not greater than in those counties which he has named in England.

4889. Are you inclined to think that the authority of Sir Robert Kane is not one upon which you might rely, as to the capability of Ireland to support the population which existed in 1841?—I have seen so many schemes for supporting population by the subdivision of land, by a system such as has been pursued in Belgium, and some other foreign countries, and I have seen such utter failures attending the attempt, to introduce it into a country very similar to Ireland, that I confess I have no reliance whatever upon any such schemes.

4890. Even since the census of 1851, are you aware, or not, that the population of Ireland has considerably decreased?—Slightly decreased.

4891. Would you say that a slight decrease might be represented by 200,000 a year, for four years?—I do not think that there has been a reduction to that amount in Ireland; I doubt it.

4892. If it be stated on the authority of the Emigration Commissioners, that 200,000 left Ireland last year for the purpose of emigration, do you doubt the fact?—I am quite aware of that, but then there is the natural increase in the population, which has to be deducted.

4893. But amongst what class?—Amongst all classes; I suppose they have not ceased to propagate in Ireland.

4894. Is it not much more likely that the prosperous portion of the community increase than the very poor?—Dr. Alison maintains the opposite idea; Dr. Alison maintains very strongly, and upon what appear to be very sufficient grounds, that the most destitute portion of the population is that which increases most.

4895. Are you aware in point of fact that all that has been actually falsified by the state of things in Ireland since the famine?—I am not aware of that.

4896. Would you be surprised if you were shown the books of a clergyman in a populous district, and if it appeared that scarcely a single birth for the whole

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year was registered in the year 1849 or 1850?—I should require to know what that population consisted of before I could say whether I should be surprised or not.

4897. Say a large portion an agricultural population?—I should be surprised if in a large agricultural Irish population of able-bodied persons there were no births.

4898. Are you aware that property in Ireland to the amount of thirteen millions of money has changed hands within the last two or three years?—I am quite aware of that.

4899. Are you aware that those who held that property before were in such a position that it was absolutely impossible for them to give employment?—I am quite aware of that.

4900. Are you aware that they were in such a position that they were necessarily compelled to press their tenants, so that those tenants could not lay out anything in improvements?—Very probably.

4901. Would not you anticipate an entire change in the circumstances, both of landlords and of tenants, and in the condition of the land and the employment of labour from a change of that kind?—I have not the smallest doubt that the employment of labour will be increased by the transfer of property from persons who are without capital to persons who have capital..

4902. Did you see by the report of the Poor-law Commissioners that until the last year there was no material increase in the wages?—The small amount of increase in the wages is most extraordinary to me.

4903. Did you see that there had been no material increase from the miserably small wages which were given before up to last year?—I am aware that there has been a considerable increase within the last year or 18 months in wages.

4904. If there has been so considerable an increase (I am only speaking relatively to what it was before) within the last year, and the employment has become continuous, and the population is decreasing, may you not anticipate with certainty that the increase of wages will be steady?—I should require a vast deal more information before I should venture to offer any opinion whatever upon the subject.

4905. If you were told upon competent authority that scarcely half the land in Ireland which is now called cultivated is properly cultivated, would it not argue that the change of that property from one class of men to the other would occasion a large increase in the amount of employment?—I should expect it to produce a great increase in the amount of employment, but I do not know why I should expect it to produce a greater amount of employment than in agricultural counties in England.

4906. Colonel *Blair*.] I think you stated in your former evidence, that in the years 1846, 1847, 1848, and 1849, with regard to certain Scotch counties, the number of vagrant Irish in those four years was 4,810, but that in the years 1850, 1851, 1852, and 1853, the number of vagrant Irish in those counties amounted to 11,248?—Yes.

4907. Though the workhouses in Ireland may, at the present moment, not contain so many poor in them, you still think that you have a right to conclude from those returns, that the influx of paupers to Scotland will continue?—I think that the increase of Irish vagrancy in Scotland at the very time when Irish vagrancy began to decrease in Ireland, and its continued increase during these last four years, while it has been diminishing in Ireland, affords at least a very strong presumption that we have in Scotland a considerable number of the vagrants who have disappeared from Ireland.

4908. Mr. *Dunlop*.] Do you attach importance or think that any important benefit arises from maintaining the law as it now stands with regard to the forfeiture of a settlement once obtained?—I do.

4909. Will you explain how you consider it important?—If it were done away with, the result would be, that a man, say an Irishman, who once acquired a settlement in Scotland might return to Ireland, live there for 20 years, and if he became disabled at the end of those 20 years come back to Scotland, and claim relief in the parish in which he had preserved his settlement.

4910. Is there any other disadvantage from a change?—The same would apply also to our inter-parochial removals.

4911. Do you carry your objection to a change of the present law so far as to maintain the present construction of the law which is put on it by the court, that a settlement

a settlement may be lost in a shorter time than the law allows a man to acquire a new one?—I entertain the opinion that it may be lost.

4912. Do you entertain an objection to that being changed, so as not to forfeit a settlement within a shorter time than the law allows for the acquisition of it?—I have not so considered that question, as to be prepared at this moment to give an opinion upon it; I have not examined it with sufficient care; I think it is a question worthy of consideration, and I should like to have time to think it over.

4913. As to the question put to you about a Scotch woman marrying an Irishman who has no settlement in Scotland, do you understand the law to be, that she would lose the benefit of her Scotch settlement?—I am under that impression; I think that the construction put upon the statute has generally been, that an Irishman, for instance, being married to a Scotch woman, if he is removable, his whole family is removable with him, provided the children be in pupilarity. That appears to me to be the ground on which a certain number of removals have taken place.

4914. Was there not a decision of the court the other day of this kind. A woman having a settlement in Scotland married an Irishman, and had two children born in another parish; he deserted her, and the question arose between the parish of her maiden settlement and the parish where the children were born. I understand that the court have decided that the parish of her maiden settlement is bound to maintain her and her two children?—I should think that very likely in a case of desertion; but I was putting a case in which there was no desertion. Where desertion takes place, the court may hold that there is a constructive suspension of the connexion between the settlement of the husband and of his wife who has been deserted; but if the husband were present, and had not deserted, I do not think it follows, as a consequence of that decision, that they would determine that the law made the wife of a man who was present irremovable, because she was born in Scotland.

4915. Do you think that she does not come within the exception in the Act, which authorises the removal only of those members of an Irishman's family who have not acquired a settlement in Scotland?—I think the persons who have had to administer the law have not so construed the statute.

4916. How far do you concur in or differ from the opinion stated by the previous witness to be held by the sheriff in Glasgow, that an Irishman who has once acquired a settlement and loses it, cannot be removed?—That construction of the law is peculiar, as far as I know, to that one gentleman.

4917. *Chairman.*] That is Sheriff Bell?—Sheriff Bell, confirmed, I should say, by his principal, Sheriff Alison.

4918. Mr. *Dunlop.*] The length of residence necessary for a settlement was, in Scotland, at one time, seven years?—It was at one time seven years; it then became three years; and one of the questions which the Commissioners considered was whether it should revert to the original time of seven years, or whether it should be an intermediate time between the three and the seven, and they at length resolved to take five years.

4919. Have you not heard it complained of as a disadvantage, both in reference to England and to Ireland, that lunatic paupers committed to a lunatic asylum by order of the sheriff, cannot be removed from Scotland at all, and that the expense of their maintenance cannot be recovered either from England or from Ireland?—Yes, that is the case; so long as it is necessary to detain them in an asylum, of course they are irremovable.

4920. And so in this way, an English or an Irish lunatic, who is permanently in a state of lunacy, remains a permanent burden upon the Scotch parish, where he or she is found, without the possibility of any redress?—It is so; and in like manner I apprehend that a Scotch lunatic in England would under similar circumstances be irremovable.

4921. But then the English parish might come on the Scotch parish for the cost of maintenance?—I am not aware that they have ever done so.

4922. Mr. *Stirling.*] I wish to call your attention to the evidence given by Mr. Smythe on the 16th of June, contained between Questions 3491 and 3498; it is in reference to the proceedings of a charitable institution at Belfast. It is there stated that the funds of this association amounted to no more than 262*l.*, but that with those funds they managed to send 15,000 people from Belfast to their own localities, of which 15,000 people, 295 persons were reshipped from Belfast to Glasgow; have you also heard that;—Yes; I was aware of the existence of that association,

association, and I believe those figures to be correct. I have no doubt that they are perfectly correct; and the inference which I drew from it was, that the burden in Belfast could not have been so excessive as it had been represented, if for 260*l.* they could get rid of so many thousand paupers.

4923. Mr. *J. Ball.*] If I am not mistaken, you took, in the comparison which you previously made, the number of disabled paupers, which you compared upon certain days in England and Ireland?—Yes.

4924. And against that you compared the number of 120,391 paupers relieved in Scotland?—Upon a particular day, the 14th of May.

4925. Of what year?—14th of May 1853.

4926. Were there 120,000?—Yes; I do it in this way; I must explain how I get at those numbers. I take the number of persons on the roll or register, and deduct the number who have died or ceased to receive relief; and then for the casual poor, instead of taking the number in the column of the general return for casual poor, I take the number of casual poor relieved on the 1st of July of that year, on that one day.

4927. Perhaps your attention has been called to this fact, that for a considerable number of years, from 1846 upwards, the number of registered poor on the 14th of May only once exceeded 80,000, and has generally been about 75,000?—Yes; that is deducting the number who have died or have ceased to receive relief.

4928. You add to that the whole number of casual poor?—I add only the number of casual poor relieved on the one day, the 1st of July.

4929. Is it not the fact that, in the first place, those casual poor include cases for the most part of persons relieved only for a few days, and cannot be very well set off against those persons who are accommodated in Irish workhouses?—It may be for only a few days.

4930. They do not represent the same class of persons?—I do not know as to that.

4931. Is it not also true that, amongst those who are on the register receiving parochial relief in Scotland, there is a considerable number who are not disabled; it has been so stated by witnesses to this Committee?—There are a considerable number who are only temporarily disabled, but, practically, in 1853, I do not believe that there were any number relieved, that would materially affect the result, who were not less or more disabled temporarily.

4932. If it has been stated to this Committee that there are put upon the register, and relieved, persons who are not at all disabled, but merely destitute, that is contrary to your belief of the fact?—Speaking of 1853, that is my opinion. I except women; women who are suffering under no peculiar disability, if they have children; widows with children are, in our practice, constructively held to be partially disabled persons.

4933. Is it not, therefore, a fallacy to compare, in the first place, a very large number of casual poor who are not upon the register at all; and, secondly, a considerable number of women with children, as against those who are returned in the Irish returns as actually disabled, and distinguished from the able-bodied poor?—It may be that the classes are not exactly synonymous; that is very possible; but the difference allows for a large margin for the adjustment of it without touching my argument.

4934. With reference to an extract which you read, is there not this fallacy in all attempts at comparison of the number of population to acres or arable acres in a country, that everything depends upon the distribution of the produce of the soil, which depends upon the social condition and the institutions of the country; is it not familiar to you that in some parts of the Continent a very large population is maintained in comfort, and without pauperism, upon land not more productive than in districts in which a very much smaller population is maintained?—I think that a very large population is maintained, but, as far as my observation goes, not in comfort. I should say that the Belgian population, which has been repeatedly quoted, is a population living in a manner which neither an Irish nor a Scotch pauper would consider comfortable.

4935. Are you acquainted with the condition of Tuscany, or of some of the central Cantons of Switzerland?—I am not acquainted with the condition of Tuscany; I am aware that under the system in Tuscany, there is a more prosperous population, but I am not in a condition to compare the influences of climate upon that result.

Sir *J. M'Neill.*

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4936. Mr. *Maguire.*] With respect to one of the evils which would arise from a change in the law, namely, giving to a man an irreversible settlement, you have left the Committee under this idea, that if a man had got that settlement in Scotland, and had lived in Ireland for 20 years, and then became a pauper, he would be liable to go back to Scotland and demand relief?—He would be entitled to do it.

4937. Is that a very probable case?—I do not think it a very improbable case. If the advancement in wages and the improvement which you have referred to in Ireland were to take place, he might then very readily pass backwards and forwards from the one country to the other.

4938. Would not he have new local ties in the mean time?—If his settlement were irreversible in Scotland, he might have local ties in Scotland; but I really do not think it safe to give an opinion upon a matter on which I can form no judgment whatever.

4939. After all, is it not rather a far-fetched illustration?—I think it is not a far-fetched illustration; and that we should be in great danger from the consequences from which we have been recently suffering.

4940. Would not that man have local rights and local ties in Ireland?—He would; but he might prefer his local rights in Scotland, as so many appear to do.

4941. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Does the present law of removal in the slightest degree tend to diminish vagrancy?—I think it does; because nearly all these vagrants ultimately, from one cause or another, come to seek parochial relief at some time, and if they are known to have been vagrants before they seek parochial relief they are removed.

4942. Does not the knowledge of the power of removal rather tend to make them seek vagrancy?—They are not able to go on for any length of time in vagrancy without coming ultimately upon the parish, and as soon as they come upon the parish they are caught. (*The Witness delivered in a document.*)

Vide Appendix.

Jovis, 29° die Junii, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Stirling.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Ingham.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Sir John Pakington.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	

The Right Hon. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, in the Chair.

The Rev. *Augustus Campbell,* called in; and Examined.

Rev. *A. Campbell.*

29 June 1854.

4943. *Chairman.*] I believe you are one of the two Rectors of Liverpool?—I am.

4944. Are you chairman of the select vestry of the parish of Liverpool?—I am the ordinary acting chairman; the parish of Liverpool, so far as the administration of the poor-laws is concerned, is governed by a Board of Guardians under the name of a select vestry, constituted by a special Act of Parliament, the 5th and 6th Victoria, chapter 88.

4945. A local Act?—A local Act; by that Act there are 21 ordinary members elected by the ratepayers, two churchwardens and four overseers, likewise elected by the ratepayers and the two rectors of Liverpool, *ex officio*; and by one of the sections it is enacted that one of the rectors, if present, shall take the chair, and I generally attend, and therefore I am the ordinarily acting chairman.

4946. How long have you acted in that capacity?—I should think more than 20 years, not actually as chairman of this Board, because there have been different changes; but I have acted in that capacity as chairman of the differently constituted Boards for more than 20 years.

4947. The parish of Liverpool, I believe, maintains its own poor; it does not form part of any union?—No.

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4948. But is of itself a union for the purpose of Poor-law administration?—It is.

4949. What we should call the Board of Guardians of the union is represented by the body called the select vestry in the parish of Liverpool?—It is.

4950. You are aware, I believe, of the objects of the inquiries of this Committee?—I am.

4951. Have you formed an opinion as to the possibility of doing away with the removal of Irish paupers from this country?—I have formed a very decided opinion upon the subject, and I am of opinion that it would be very detrimental to the interests of the parishioners: looking back to the year 1847, when we suffered so heavily from the influx of Irish poor, I should look forward with the greater apprehension to any measure making them irremovable, under the conviction that their knowledge of this fact would bring them over in multitudes, and inflict upon us an injury, not equal in intensity, perhaps, to that of the period alluded to, but quite as grievous, from its permanent character. In 1847 we relieved 47,194 Irish, besides many thousands not recorded, but whose relief could not be resisted in the first instance. Typhus fever of a most malignant kind broke out in consequence of the over-crowding of the low lodging-houses; 15 of our parish officers died of this fever, besides five or six Roman-catholic clergymen; we had to lay two additional rates of 1*s.* in the pound; and the cost to the parish, from first to last, without reckoning the enormous outlay for fever hospitals, amounted to 70,000 *l.*

4952. In that one year?—In that one year; that is the calculation; the out-door relief to Irish alone amounted to 20,750 *l.*; and in order to show you that I am not singular in my opinion, or visionary in my apprehensions, I should like, by your favour, to be permitted to read to you, a copy of a letter addressed by the late Mr. Rushton to the then Home Secretary, I believe Sir George Grey. Mr. Rushton at the time was stipendiary magistrate of the borough; he was, as I believe you know, a man of considerable ability, and being a native of the town, having passed the greatest part of his life there, he was perfectly well acquainted with the nature and habits of the population, and deeply interested in their welfare; if it is your pleasure, I will read that letter to you.

4953. If you please?—The letter itself I suppose will be found in the records of the Home Office, but this is an authentic copy.

4954. Mr. *Liddell.*] Will you tell us the date of that letter?—April 21, 1849; it refers to the previous period, "At the request of a deputation of the finance committee of the council, and also of the select vestry of this borough, I have undertaken to represent to you the result of the Irish immigration into the town of Liverpool, and to suggest on behalf of the authorities already named, measures which in their opinion, would tend to lessen the burthen on the public resources of the borough and parish of Liverpool. I am perfectly aware from my former communications with you, that many of the facts which I shall have to state, are already known to you, but I am induced to recapitulate them, in order to place before you in one letter, a general outline of the evils of which the people here most loudly complain; you have already heard from me, that between the 13th day of January and the 13th day of December 1847, both days inclusive, 296,231 persons landed in this port from Ireland; that of this vast number, about 130,000 emigrated to the United States, that some 50,000 were passengers on business, and the remainder were paupers half naked and starving, landed for the most part during the winter, and becoming immediately on landing applicants for parochial relief. You already know the results of this accumulation of misery in the crowded town of Liverpool, of the cost of relief at once rendered necessary to prevent the thousands of hungry and naked Irish perishing in our streets, and also of the cost of the pestilence which generally follows in the train of famine and misery, such as we then had to encounter. I do not enter into the details of this misery, further than to say, that though the pecuniary cost to the town of Liverpool was enormous, the loss of valuable lives was yet much more to be deplored; hundreds of patients perished notwithstanding all efforts made to save them, and 10 Roman-catholic and one Protestant clergyman, many parochial officers, and many medical men who devoted themselves to the task of alleviating the sufferings of the wretched, died in the discharge of those high duties." I think there is a slight exaggeration there; I am not aware of so many as 10 Roman-catholic clergymen; my impression is six, at the outside, and that certainly was lamentable and deplorable enough, and I am not aware of any

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any Protestant clergyman who died. "I believe I have in my former letters to you, stated my conviction that the presence of this miserable population would materially affect the health and character of our own labouring classes; my worst anticipations have been realised. I am unfortunately enabled, by the results of my daily experience, to show you how much the health of the people has suffered, and I am enabled by exact details, to show you how greatly the Irish misery has increased crime in Liverpool. In the year 1846, 18,171 prisoners were brought before the police court. In 1847, the number increased to 19,719; and in 1848, a further increase took place, and the numbers were 22,036. In the year 1845, the number of persons committed for trial, and summarily convicted for felony, amounted to 3,889; in 1846, the number increased to 4,740; in 1847, to 6,510; and in 1848, to 7,714. I do not possess the means of accurately distinguishing the countries to which the criminals belong before the year 1848; previous to that time, I had, however, directed my attention to the subject, and I saw from day to day that the poor Irish population forced upon us in a state of wretchedness which cannot be described, would within 12 hours after they landed, be found among one of three classes, viz., paupers, vagrants, or thieves. Few became claimants for parochial relief, for in that case they soon discovered they might be at once sent back to Ireland; many of these forlorn creatures became beggars, many of them thieves. The number of Irish brought as prisoners into the police court during the year 1848, was 8,794; the number of Irish sent to trial, or summarily convicted of felony, during the same period, was 4,661; the English during the same period, were 5,104; now the Irish form but one-fourth of the population, and yet they give very nearly half the criminals. The truth is, that gaols, such as the borough of Liverpool, afford the wretched and unfortunate Irish better food, shelter and raiment, and more cleanliness than it is to be feared many of them ever experienced elsewhere, and hence it constantly happens that Irish vagrants who have offered to them the choice of being sent to Ireland or to gaol, in a great majority of cases desire to go to prison; the fact being that the English gaols are excellent winter quarters for starving Irish paupers, and in consequence the gaol of Liverpool, which ought never to contain more than 500 prisoners, has now 1,100 within its walls. The cost of all this to the people of Liverpool, both in the augmentation of parochial and of legal charges, is absolutely enormous. It cannot be surprising that the people of this place who find the rates for the relief of the poor daily augmenting, cannot be satisfied under the pressure which they sustain, and the parishioners of Liverpool think they have a fair claim to such relief from their present intolerable burthens as may be fair and practicable. Beyond all doubt the towns on the sea coast in Ireland, and many of the landed proprietors in Ireland furnish the wretched Irish with the means of coming to Liverpool. I have often discovered this from the examination of the poor, and only the other day an Irish offender, when asked where he came from, said he was sent with 1*s.* from the Irish workhouse to Liverpool. These poor people are brought from Ireland in crowds on deck, even in most inclement weather. Unfortunately few of us remember more severe weather in April than during the last week; yet from the 14th to the 19th instant, 4,412 deck passengers arrived in Liverpool from Ireland. The people here think it right, under these circumstances, that they should have more protection than the existing law affords. In the first place, they think that the provisions of the Act for the removal of such poor should be enlarged, so as to render all Irish persons who have been once removed to Ireland under the powers of that Act, and who again return to England and become chargeable, liable to be punished as rogues and vagabonds, and they also think that powers ought to be given to remove to Ireland, not only those who become chargeable by receiving parochial relief, but also all who are found begging, or who have been convicted of felony. It is also deemed absolutely necessary that the Board of Trade should at once enforce by the granting of certificates, under the Act 11 & 12 Vict. c. 81, the limitation of the number of deck passengers brought in steamers from Ireland. This is a measure demanded by common humanity, as well as by sound policy, as it regards the towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire. It would be out of place to do more than to state the amount of evil which the inhabitants of Liverpool have to bear, arising out of the unfortunate state of Ireland. I do not therefore attempt to offer any opinion about the matter, but I do most anxiously represent to you the great danger, moral as well as physical, which cannot but be generated by allowing the continual unchecked immigra-

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tion of the miserable of the Irish people into such towns as Liverpool. The inhabitants feel the pecuniary cost as a sore evil, but they also feel and fear other results which may permanently deteriorate the condition, the habits, and the morals of the labouring classes of their own countrymen."

4955. *Chairman.*] That was addressed to Sir George Grey, as Secretary of State?—It was addressed to Sir George Grey. I believe he was then the Home Secretary. About the same time I myself addressed, by direction of the select vestry, a letter which, if it is your pleasure, I will read.

4956. If you please; you addressed that letter, in your character of chairman?—In my character of chairman.

4957. What is the date of it?—Thirteenth April 1849: "In order to give more effectual relief from the continued pressure of Irish pauperism, we ought to have the power to treat such persons as we have removed to Ireland, and who return as paupers, as idle and disorderly persons, *i. e.*, as persons who return to and become chargeable in any parish whence they have been legally removed, under 5 Geo. 4, c. 83; we ought also to have power to remove such Irish poor as are guilty of felony and of begging. The extent of the charge of Irish pauperism to Liverpool must not be estimated by the expense of parochial cost, heavy and grievous as it is. Last year 4,661 Irish were committed to prison. The number of English committed during the same period being 5,104, and of Scotch 305. The Irish poor are for the most part glad to inhabit our gaol in the winter. In one month last year, the cases where Irish were delinquents, amounted to no less than 800. They therefore pray that Irish paupers may be restricted from returning after they have been passed, and may be subjected to the penalties of idle and disorderly persons; I am also desired to solicit your attention to the 1st section of the 9 & 10 Victoria, chapter 66, making persons who have resided five years in a parish irremovable, and entitling them to relief. In certain classes of society there are, unhappily, numbers who have so little regard for the sanctity of an oath, that they will swear anything for themselves, and can get others to swear anything for them. From some detected cases, it is believed that great numbers, perhaps a majority of the Irish claiming a five years' residence, as defined by this Act, have no right to such claim, and as the cost of relief last week amounted to 633 *l.* 19 *s.* 4 *d.*, of which 214 *l.* 10 *s.* was spent on Irish alone, they pray that the law may be so amended as to require a stricter proof of residence than is now required, and protect the ratepayers from imposition. I am desired, however, to state, that the select vestry are not actuated by a mere desire to economise the parish funds, although they think they would be justified in their appeal on this ground, as many of the ratepayers are very ill able to bear the burthen, but they are actuated by a further desire to save their own poor from the contagious demoralization consequent upon a systematic vagrancy in contradiction of the spirit, at least, if not in direct defiance of the letter of the laws of Elizabeth, one of the most important objects of which was to combine the repression of vagrant mendicity with the relief of the poor, and because they are anxious to save them from a disastrous visitation of cholera, or another infliction of typhus fever, consequent upon the overcrowding of the low lodging-houses in the town with Irish immigrants predisposed to that disease, by which five Roman-catholic clergymen and 15 of the parish officers lost their lives in 1847."

4958. Have you another document which you wish to state to the Committee?—I have a document which is a petition which we presented to the House of Commons recently, 28th of March 1854; if it is your pleasure, I will read it, it is signed by myself as chairman of the select vestry: "To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled. The humble petition of the select vestry of the parish of Liverpool, in the county of Lancaster, sheweth, That your petitioners, who are the elected representatives of a parish containing, by the last census, a population of 258,000 souls, submitted to your Honourable House, on Friday last, a petition praying, for the reasons therein assigned, that the Bill introduced by Mr. Baines, to abolish in England and Wales the compulsory removal of the poor on the ground of settlement, and to make provision for the more equitable distribution of the charge of relief in unions, might not pass into law." Perhaps I might be permitted to comment upon that. That was not my own private opinion, it was the opinion of the select vestry, and of course I was bound to sign the petition; it was not my opinion that the Bill, as originally introduced by Mr. Baines, should not pass into

into law. "That your petitioners have since observed, with the greatest apprehension, that it is the purpose of Her Majesty's Government to introduce another Bill effecting a most vital change in the nature and objects of that introduced by the President of the Poor Law Board; no less, indeed, than to abrogate the compulsory removal of paupers to Ireland and Scotland. That your petitioners feel that they should be wanting in their duty, not only towards the ratepayers, but the poor of the said parish, did they not humbly, but earnestly, protest against the proposed legislation, certain as it is to inflict upon both the ratepayers and the poor hardship and injustice at all times, and occasionally the most disastrous consequences. That in 1847, as often represented to your Honourable House, the pauperism of Ireland was relieved at the expense of Liverpool to a very enormous extent, by the immigration of destitute men, women, and children, in overwhelming numbers, who straightway applied to the parish for relief, and by their crowding into the low lodging-houses of the town, generated fever of a malignant character, which caused a most calamitous increase of mortality in the town and the deaths of several of the medical and relieving officers; 47,194 persons (not to mention many thousands whose relief it was impossible to record in the outset of the crisis) cost the parish upwards of 70,000 *l.* That this enormous expenditure, which was of a temporary character, has been succeeded by a permanent burthen of a still more oppressive kind, in the operation of the Five Years Residence Act, which has increased the ordinary expenditure of the parish by 16,000 *l.* a year in relief, given mainly to poor persons belonging to Ireland. That the immigration of 1847 may, by the favour of cheap transit and now by the additional privilege of irremovability, be at any time repeated with the like calamitous results; in short, the burthen of relief to Irish paupers may, under such circumstances, be indefinitely transferred to the cost of the Liverpool ratepayers, and by numbers nullify the application of the indoor labour test, considered to be one of the most valuable provisions of the Poor-law. Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that the parish of Liverpool, from its peculiar position, may be exempted from the operation of any act abrogating the compulsory removal of Irish poor; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray. Signed in and on behalf of the said select vestry, this 28th day of March 1854, *Augustus Campbell*, Rector of Liverpool, chairman of the said select vestry."

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4959. Since that petition was presented, has your attention been still further drawn to this particular subject of the removal of the Irish poor, in consequence of the appointment of this Committee, and your becoming aware that your evidence would be requisite?—My attention has been particularly directed to it, and I have thought and made inquiries a good deal upon the subject; and I still remain of the opinion that the abrogating the power of removal will cause an enormous influx of Irish.

4960. Have you directed your attention to the question whether the alteration in the condition of the Irish people since the year 1847 would render the influx, which you seem to apprehend, less probable?—I do not think that the probability of an influx is at all diminished, because I do not perceive any reliable diminution of the numbers coming into the port. The paper which I hold in my hand may be called an official paper; it is a return of passengers, apparently paupers, who have arrived in Liverpool from Ireland, from 1st January 1850 to 31st March 1854.

4961. How did you obtain the information set forth in that paper?—This comes from the police-office, and it is signed by Captain Greig, our head constable, and is therefore authenticated; from this it appears that the number of Irish who came into the port in those four years was 1,032,902, and out of that number 295,674 are recorded as deck passengers, apparently paupers; and the number of persons of that class who came into the port in 1853 is larger than the number who came into the port in 1851; the number who came into the port in 1851 is 68,134; in 1853 the number is 71,353.

4962. Does the paper specify the number in each of the other two years?—Yes; in 1850 it was 77,765; in 1851, 68,134; in 1852, 78,422; in 1853, 71,353.

4963. Sir *Robert Ferguson.*] Have you the first three months of 1854?—I have.

4964. What proportion do those bear to 1851 or 1853?—I think I have another document giving that. This is a return of persons who arrived in Liverpool from Ireland, to emigrate. In the first three months of the present year the following are the numbers: in January, 3,977; in February, 8,757; and in March, 15,160.

4965. Were those deck passengers as emigrants?—I do not know. This is another

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another return, signed by Captain Greig, and it is headed "A return of emigrants who have arrived in Liverpool from Ireland, from 1st January 1850 to 31st March 1854;" and for the first three months the figures are as I have given them to you; I have since obtained, not signed by him, but signed by the superintendent, the numbers for April, May, and up to the 24th of June, of persons of that description, passengers who have arrived in Liverpool from Ireland.

4966. Mr. *Liddell.*] Do you mean deck passengers?—No; this is distinct. This is a return of passengers who have arrived in Liverpool from Ireland, and the number in April was 19,140; in May, 20,054, and from the 1st of June to the 24th, inclusive, 15,880, making a total of 55,344 in the months of April and May, to June 24th.

4967. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Those all came over as deck passengers, as emigrants, jobbers, &c., leaving out the parties who came over apparently as paupers?—I should think so.

4968. Then Liverpool rather gains than suffers by that emigration?—I shall have something to say upon that subject.

4969. *Chairman.*] I presume a great number of those who come, as indeed these tables show, come for purposes of emigration?—They do.

4970. Have you any observation to make with respect to that as bearing upon the subject of our inquiry?—I have. I have a return which, perhaps, I am hardly in a position to say is official, because it is not signed by any official person, but it was procured for me by a friend of mine who is the chaplain to the emigrants in the town of Liverpool, and he tells me that he got it from the Government office, and that it was copied out by the Government clerks. This purports to be a table showing the number of Irish who came to Liverpool as emigrants, the number who emigrated, and the remainder who located themselves in England from January 1850 to March 1854. The total who came in for the purposes of emigration was 704,833; the total who remained and did not emigrate was 125,854. In 1851 the number who came for purposes of emigration was 215,389. The numbers who actually emigrated was 158,988, leaving a residue who located themselves in England, it is said (I do not know that that can be actually proved), of 56,381; the numbers since have been smaller. In 1852 the residue was 12,460.

4971. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Will you give the total number of people as well as the residue?—In 1852 the number who came to emigrate was 153,909; the number who actually emigrated was 141,449, leaving a residue of 12,460. In 1853 the number who came to emigrate was 162,299; the number who did emigrate was 144,110, leaving a residue of 18,189. This document is, to the best of my knowledge and information and belief, accurate.

4972. Mr. *Maguire.*] Who is the chaplain to the emigrants?—The Rev. J. W. Welsh.

4973. *Chairman.*] You are aware that the Act under which the removals of Irish paupers from England take place is the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117. Was there passed shortly after that another Act which you have found to be important to you at Liverpool?—Yes.

4974. What is that?—The 10 & 11 Vict. c. 33.

4975. I believe you know the history of the Act; it was passed, was it not, very much in consequence of representations from Liverpool and Glasgow?—I believe so. The Act of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117 required, by the second section, I think, that the pauper, if it was wished to remove him, should be summoned by one justice to appear before two justices before he could be passed. We found that that was inoperative, for he never could be found; he disappeared, and the summons could not be served, and therefore we petitioned for the passing of another Act; and the consequence of our petition, and those from Glasgow and other places, was, that the Act of the 10 & 11 Vict., c. 33, was passed, by which it is enacted, "That it shall be lawful for any guardian, relieving officer, or overseer of any parish or union in England to take and convey before two justices of the peace, without summons or warrant, every poor person who shall become chargeable to any parish in England, and who he may have reason to believe is liable to be removed from England under the first recited Act; and the justices before whom any such person shall be so brought, shall hear and examine and proceed in the same manner in all respects as if such person had been brought before them under and in the manner directed by that Act."

4976. I believe there is a similar power given to the inspector of the poor in Scotland by the second section of that Act?—Yes.

4977. Will

4977. Will you state to the Committee what was the practical operation of that Act?—It reveals, and, I think, establishes a very important truth indeed. The out-door relief granted to Irish paupers in the week ending 12th June 1847, which was before the passing of this Act, was 748 *l.* 4 *s.* 3 *d.*; the out-door relief granted to Irish paupers in the week ending the 24th of July, after the passing of the Act, had fallen from 748 *l.* 4 *s.* 3 *d.* to 413 *l.* 5 *s.* 5 *d.* In the week ending 14th August, it had further fallen to 280 *l.* 6 *s.* 6 *d.*; and on the 9th of October it had fallen to 94 *l.* 12 *s.* So that, previous to the passing of the Act, we were giving 748 *l.* 4 *s.* 3 *d.* per week. I cannot pretend to say that that was the average; it is the only figure before me; and in the week ending 9th October 94 *l.* 12 *s.*

4978. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Is there a diminution every year in time of harvest in the number of Irish poor?—No; I should not say that there is; I cannot speak to that.

4979. *Chairman.*] How do you ascribe the diminution which you have spoken of to the operation of the Act?—The simple fact is this, that when they come to the parish officers for relief, the parish officers say, "Very well, of course we will relieve you if you require it, but you know that you will be passed to Ireland if you are relieved;" and when they hear that they go away.

4980. Then is it your opinion that it is their knowledge that you have this power which prevents them from applying?—That is my firm conviction, and it is the conviction of the parish officers.

4981. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What is the quantity of your workhouse accommodation; how far is it used, and how far is out-door relief given?—Our workhouse will contain 2,848 persons, I believe, and I suppose there may be about 2,400 in the house now; but the governor of our workhouse is present, and he, of course, can answer that question more accurately than I can.

4982. *Chairman.*] It has been suggested here that you might protect yourselves, to a very considerable extent at all events, in Liverpool, by some improved application of the labour test; what is your opinion as to how far an improved application of any labour test would furnish you with a protection against the evil which you seem to apprehend?—I do not see myself how it would be possible to enforce the labour test in Liverpool; a working man comes over with his wife and children, and goes up into the interior to obtain work; he leaves his wife and children to beg or to go upon the parish; the labour test cannot be applied to the women and children; there would not be room enough without doubling or trebling the size of our workhouse. Besides that, I would, with all due respect, venture to express an opinion, that the mode of treating English and Irish paupers is so perfectly dissimilar, that I do not see how we could put them in the same workhouse. An English workhouse would be a comparatively comfortable home, and an English dietary comparatively tempting fare, to an Irish pauper; you could not have one dietary for the English and another for the Irish; we must have a separate workhouse, which would be absurd. I have here the dietaries of 20 workhouses in England, and 23 in Ireland; and in the Irish dietaries, except Belfast, animal food forms no ingredient, and the adult paupers have no supper, being kept without food from two o'clock one day till nine o'clock the next. I have the dietary of the Middleton Union workhouse.

4983. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are these from official sources?—I cannot say that that is; it is not signed. This from Clonmel is signed by the master of the workhouse, and from Fermoy it is signed by the master of the workhouse. I should think that this would be considered official; this is in the Cork Union; it is printed and signed by William Fitzmaurice, master.

4984. *Chairman.*] Is there any date to it?—No.

4985. When did you receive it?—I found it when I went down to Liverpool last week.

4986. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Are you aware that the dietaries in Ireland are prescribed by the Poor Law Commissioners, and that there are either two or three dietaries, of which the guardians may select one?—Yes; I only wish to make a comparison; that rather confirms my view.

4987. *Chairman.*] What authority have you for saying that this is the present dietary in use in the Cork workhouse?—I am afraid that my evidence will fail there, unless the governor of our workhouse, who is here, and who was master of the Cork workhouse, can bring proof of it; this is not dated.

4988. Did you receive these in answer to applications which you made?—These were received by the vestry clerk of Liverpool, in answer to applications which were made.

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4989. Made lately?—Made recently; I am perfectly convinced in my own mind that these are quite recent.

4990. Mr. *Liddell.*] Do you find between those that are signed and those that are not signed, a general analogy in the dietaries?—Exactly; there is no difference whatever, I believe, with the exception of Belfast, as I before observed; in the Belfast Union dietary meat is not omitted, but that is the only one that I can find. I will read the dietary of the Cork Union: "Dietary for healthy classes: breakfast, eight ounces of Indian meal, half-a-pint of milk; dinner one pound of bread, and one-and-a-half pint of porridge;" no supper. In the Kilkenny Union, the dietary is, "breakfast, nine ounces of Indian meal and half-a-pint of new milk; dinner 14 ounces of brown bread, and one quart of soup;" no supper. Now the word "soup" conveys the notion of animal food to an English ear, but there is a note by the master to state that "the soup is made of oatmeal and flour in the proportion of one ounce of oatmeal and one ounce of flour to a quart of water, well seasoned with onions, pepper, allspice, salt, &c., and that I believe is the universal character of the soup in the Irish workhouses. Mr. Carr, the governor of our workhouse, will give you more information upon that point. I should now wish to be permitted to read our own dietary: "Liverpool workhouse dietary for healthy inmates: able-bodied men, breakfast, two pints of porridge, one pint of butter-milk." Then on Sunday, the dinner is "four ounces of cooked meat, one pound of potatoes, or one pound of rice. Monday, two pints of pea soup, six ounces of bread; Tuesday, two pounds of scouse," which is a mixture of meat and potatoes; "Wednesday, two pounds of rice-pudding; Thursday, four ounces of cooked meat, and one pound of potatoes or rice; Friday, two pints of pea soup and six ounces of bread; Saturday, two pounds of scouse or eight ounces of bread; two ounces of cheese or eight ounces of bread, and one pint of coffee; supper two pints of milk porridge, and eight ounces of bread."

4991. Is that supper every day?—Yes; I do not give you the other dietaries, for aged and infirm men, able-bodied women, aged and infirm women and children, but the documents are here.

4992. *Chairman.*] What do you infer from this comparison of the dietaries?—I infer two things; first, that we need not wonder that the Irish should come over into the Liverpool workhouse, as they get so much better food; and in the next place, that we cannot treat the two parties in the same way. If we were to attempt to give the Irish the same dietary as they have in their own country there would be a rebellion both in the house and out of it; the paupers would rebel and the ratepayers would rebel against it; they would not permit such a thing, and therefore I infer that it would be necessary to have a different mode of treatment altogether, which I think would be next to impossible. I speak with deference; I do not wish to say anything, I am sure, disrespectful at all to the Irish Members, of course they will acquit me of that, and I am sure I do not wish to say anything disparaging of the Irish people, for they are a people in whom I take a great interest, and to whom I wish exceedingly well; but my conviction is that the habits and customs of the Irish are so dissimilar to those of the English, that it would be nearly impossible to assimilate the legislation for both.

4993. The poor law legislation?—Of course, I confine myself entirely to that; and, if I might be permitted to do so, I would now wish to enter briefly upon the statistics of Irish crime in the borough of Liverpool. Mr. Rushton has told you what was the case in his time, and I have here an official document which will show that we are not much better off now than we were then. This is the report of the police establishment on the state of crime in the borough of Liverpool, with tabular returns for 1853. In 1853 there were 5,784 persons taken into custody on charges of felony, of whom 2,599 were Irish, being 44 9–10ths per cent.; the Liverpool people were only 1,730, or 29 9–10ths per cent. In 1853 there were 2,535 committed on charges of felony, of whom Ireland contributed 1,138, or 46 9–10ths per cent.; the native born Liverpool people were only 759, or 29 9–10ths per cent. Then there is another very unpleasant table; there is a table which shows the number of prostitutes taken into custody and summarily punished for being disorderly in the streets, that is for 1853; also the number of times each had been in custody and committed previously; the total number is 1,123, of whom 295 were of Liverpool, and 497 Irish.

4994. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Those returns, I presume, have reference merely to the birthplace of the parties?—Yes.

4995. Have you any means of knowing how long any portion of those persons, of whom you speak as being Irish, have lived in England?—No. Then there is another

another table showing the number of prisoners who slept in the Liverpool Borough Gaol on Wednesday night, the 27th of April, 1854; this is signed by the governor; adult males, 158 Irish; other countries, 188; total 346: juveniles, males, 50 Irish, 32 of other countries, total 82; adult females, 97 Irish, 111 of other countries, total 208; juvenile females, 12 Irish, of other countries 18, total 30; total of both sexes, adults, 255 Irish; 299 of other countries, total 554; juveniles, 62 Irish; 50 of other countries, total 112; grand total 317 Irish; 349 of other countries; total 666.

4996. *Chairman.*] You are aware that by the law as it stands, an Irishman may become irremovable by a residence of five years in the same parish; you have already adverted to that?—Yes; I have no objection to that.

4997. Could you abridge that period of five years?—I do not think you could safely.

4998. Could you make it three or two?—Indeed I do not think so, safely to the interests of the people of Liverpool; it was suggested somewhere, I do not know whether it was mentioned by Lord Palmerston himself, that the requiring a certain period of industrial residence might remedy the evil, but it is very difficult to define what industrial residence is. I myself know an Irishman who is in the habit of working, perhaps, three or four days in the week, and getting drunk the remainder; that, unhappily, is the case with a great many English also; it would be difficult to call that an industrial residence. I have some statistics upon the point of the Irish industry, which were furnished to me by a reverend friend of mine who is conversant with such matters, and who has the charge of one of the most densely-peopled districts in the town of Liverpool; he is generally an accurate man, and I should think that his statistics were accurate. He has given me the classification of Irish settlers in Liverpool in four districts, two of which he has examined into himself, and therefore he is responsible for the return. The other two were examined into by the agents of our Scripture Readers' Society; and, if it is your pleasure, I will read the statement.

4999. Have you yourself confidence in the accuracy of these returns?—I have, as far as it is possible to be accurate in such matters. The clergymen go about a great deal among the people, and these Scripture readers go about still more. We take every pains to make them accurate persons, and we believe them to be conscientious and truth-telling persons, otherwise we should not appoint them to that office. The returns are partly by them, and partly by the clergyman, in whom I place very great confidence; he is a very laborious man, and very clever, and accurate in his statistics, generally speaking.

5000. Will you state the substance of it?—"Classification of Irish settlers in Liverpool. By settlers I mean permanent families, who have established themselves here, and who live as best they can; in opposition to those who have arrived recently, merely to try what they can do. The following analysis exhibits the poor in both the north and south ends of the town, along the line inhabited by the working population. Two of the districts are within the parish" (those are the two of which he is personally cognisant); "two, showing the same class of facts, are in the borough only. The analysis, so far as it refers to the Vauxhall district," which is his district, "is derived from my own examination made in 1847; the others, on the same plan, were obtained from the Scripture readers, through Mr. Bardsley." You see therefore that this analysis is not very recent; the analysis of the Scripture readers is recent; that has been made within the last six weeks. In the Vauxhall district, the number of Irish families above the labouring class is 11; the number of labourers in regular employ is 133; the number in irregular employ, 190; absolute paupers, 102; bad characters, or persons without any visible means of support, 144. In St. Thomas's, Toxteth Park, the statistics of which are provided by the Scripture Readers' Society's agents, the number of families above the labouring class is 21; labourers in regular employ, 54; in irregular employ, 250; absolute paupers, 200; bad characters, or persons without any visible means of support, 380. Out of a total of 905, 380 were without any visible means of support; 200 absolute paupers; 250 in irregular employ; and only 54 in regular employ. And so it goes on.

5001. Mr. *J. Ball.*] By "paupers" do you mean persons in receipt of parochial relief?—No, I should not think them so accurate as that; I should think they merely meant poor people who got relief where they could, not absolutely on the parish.

5002. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] You stated that last return to be a recent one?—

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une 1854.

Yes, it is quite recent; I should think made within the last six weeks. St. Thomas's is a district just out of the parish, within the borough, attached to a church which was built by the late Sir John Gladstone; then St. James's is a district much of the same sort; there there is no family above the labouring class; labourers in regular employ, only 30: in irregular employ, 264; paupers, 50; bad characters, or persons without any visible means of support, 70.

5003. *Chairman.*] Have you attended to a suggestion which has been made here, as to a penalty on vagrancy, as a possible security against it in Liverpool and other places?—I have; but the only reply which I could give to that would be that Mr. Rushton found the Vagrant Act inoperative in his time; for whenever he said that he would commit a vagrant to prison, the overseer said to him, "Very well, sir, then I shall have to keep the family;" and he said that he found the Act inoperative, and he refused to commit, and said he would not do so, unless he was compelled to do so by a mandamus from the Court of Queen's Bench.

5004. Mr. *Maguire.*] At what time did Mr. Rushton make that statement?—In 1847; of course I do not know what it would be now; my opinion is that the only operative penalty is the power of removal, subject to proper restrictions.

5005. *Chairman.*] You do not think that any modification at all would be useful in that respect?—I am hardly competent to give an opinion upon that.

5006. None such has occurred to you?—None such has occurred to me.

5007. With regard to Irish labour, which you mentioned just now, is there not a great value in that kind of labour in Liverpool?—It is extremely valuable; I think it very difficult to ascertain what the value is; I think any estimate of that sort would be fanciful, but I am inclined to place a very high value upon it indeed; we could not do without it either in town or in country. In the present state of the labour market, English labour would be almost unpurchasable if it were not for the competition of Irish labour. The English labourers have unfortunately been taught their rights until they seem to have forgotten their duties, and they not only will not work themselves, but will not allow others to work, and therefore we have derived very great assistance from the Irish; I myself have derived very great assistance from them personally.

5008. I suppose you allude to some strikes which have taken place?—Yes.

5009. Mr. *Liddell.*] And labour unions?—Yes; and the agricultural labourers now have a reluctance to work for what I think remunerative wages, and in that case we are very frequently able to put on the screw of the Irish competition; we get an Irish labourer to do the same work extremely well, and therefore it benefits us very much. But then with the highest appreciation for Irish labour, and I do not in the least wish to depreciate it or to injure the Irish labourer in the slightest possible degree, I am most anxious to give every advantage that can possibly be given by the law or by humanity to every honest, industrious Irish labourer; but with the highest appreciation of its value, I think it may be bought too dear; and in the first place I would venture to hazard the opinion (perhaps it may be erroneous) that a great majority of the ratepayers of Liverpool only profit indirectly by the value of Irish labour. I would cite, for instance, that example which is frequently cited to prove the injustice of the poor law altogether, the case of an industrious labouring man, who, instead of marrying at 18 or 20, when he has hardly money to pay the marriage fees, and buy the marriage ring, waits perhaps till he is 30; works hard in the meantime, and saves money to buy or rent a 15*l.* a year house; it is very hard to make that man pay 5*s.* rates, instead of 2*s.* 6*d.*, because Irish labour is valuable to the port and commerce of Liverpool. The same would hold good with regard to another case, which is very common among ourselves, the case of a poor widow, who manages to rent a house of, say 40*l.* a year, and gets a very bare living by letting lodgings; it is very hard upon that woman to make her pay an increased rate, because Irish labour is valuable to the port and commerce of Liverpool. But I would further urge that the Irish poor, as it is, cost us a great deal; in 10 years they are calculated to have cost us 124,000*l.* in food, necessaries and clothing.

5010. *Chairman.*] Do you mean that they cost the parish that amount?—Yes.

5011. In the way of parochial relief?—Yes; 124,000*l.* has been paid out of the parish rates in 10 years.

5012. Mr. *J. Ball.*] In the last 10 years?—Yes; I have the tables here, and I have an abstract of those tables given me by the vestry clerk, which perhaps I may be permitted to read. In the year ending March 1854, the charge on the Irish

Irish account was 14,431*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*, besides which, we have erected two workhouses, at an expense of 160,000*l.*, more than one-third of the inmates being Irish; and in our vagrant sheds the governor of the workhouse informs me that three-fourths of the applicants are Irish. This table is a return of the number of paupers relieved in the parish of Liverpool and in the industrial schools for 10 years; it exhibited the out-door relief given in the workhouse, and in the industrial schools; the amounts for the Irish alone being as follows: out-door relief for the year 1845, was 497*l.*; in 1854, it was 6,594*l.* Workhouse relief, which in 1845 was 2,641*l.*, in 1854 was 6,843*l.* The industrial schools were opened in 1845: for the year 1846 the Irish expense was 47*l.*; in 1854 it was 993*l.* So that in the above 10 years the out-door relief was 74,078*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*, the workhouse relief, 44,505*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*, and the industrial schools, 5,424*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*: the total being 124,008*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* In addition to that, if I might be permitted to say so, the people of Liverpool tax themselves voluntarily to a great extent in the relief of the Irish poor. I have here a table furnished to me by the agent of a society which we call the Liverpool District Provident Society, the object of which is not to relieve the poor, but to teach them if possible to relieve themselves, by placing them under the superintendence of district visitors, who are supposed to have the charge of them, to look after them and assist them. We give no relief in money, but in times of great pressure we give relief by means of tickets and food; that is dispensed by what we call our Mendicity Department in the society. In 1841, the number of English who were relieved in that way was 7,958; the number of Irish 16,036. In 1846, the number of English who were relieved in that way was 9,447; the number of Irish, 18,987; the number of Scotch being at the same period 396. That, of course, we could not stand; it was absurd to try to carry on such a system as that, and therefore we gave it up. We commenced a system of rigorous inspection and investigation, and we have now so reduced the number that the numbers in 1853 were 1,612 English and 1,169 Irish, 29 Scotch, 76 Welsh, 13 unknown. The total number relieved by means of tickets in those years, from 1830 to 1853 inclusive, was 253,364, of which 139,278 were Irish. We give flour, or bread, or groceries, in some cases.

5013. Mr. *Liddell.*] And all this was by the agency of voluntary benevolence?—Yes.

5014. One society, it seems?—One society.

5015. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Still, as I understand you, these returns also refer merely to the birth-place of the parties relieved, and not to the time during which they may have resided in Liverpool?—Doubtless. I presume no investigation of that sort has taken place.

5016. Do you think that it is quite a fair comparison to institute, without reference to the period during which the parties may have resided in Liverpool?—I am hardly competent to give an answer to that question; it is for the Committee to judge. I merely state facts and figures; of course I cannot pretend at all to say, and I do not suppose that the agents themselves who examined these individuals go into that question. They ask the question, and then they judge from the accent whether it is true or not.

5017. Take the case of a person born in Ireland who may have resided for 15 or 20 years in Liverpool; do you think that there ought to be any difference made in reference to a person of that description; do you think that he ought to be treated in a return as an Irishman?—Certainly not.

5018. And yet, as I understand, those returns treat all parties born in Ireland, though they may have resided 15 or 20 years in Liverpool, as Irish?—Yes; but I beg to observe that we do not refuse relief to Irish; we never think of such a thing. We have been forced to reduce the amount of relief in our society; it was absurd; we could not go on with it, and we have reduced the English in the same proportion.

5019. *Chairman.*] You have expressed a strong opinion that the present law of removal ought to be retained; have you any improvements to suggest in that law?—I really cannot say that I have; it is very difficult for an unlegal person to give any answer to that question, but my conviction is, that the 10 & 11 Vict. c. 33, should be retained, subjecting it to any restrictions that you please to prevent abuse and hardship taking place; possibly appointing Government officers at the different ports to carry out and enforce the restrictions and making them responsible for the proper treatment of persons removed. It might be well also not only to require a medical certificate before removal, which

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I believe is always required now, at least in case of doubt, but likewise afterwards. Mr. Evans, who is here, will be able to give you personal information upon that point as to the precautions which are taken before persons are passed. I think it might be expedient not only to require a medical certificate before removal, but also to require a medical certificate after removal, in order to show that no harshness had been practised.

5020. Mr. *Ingham.*] A medical certificate to come from Ireland after the person had been removed?—Yes. In 1847, 1848, and 1849, we took every pains that humanity could suggest to prevent hardship. We were quite as well aware of it as anybody could be; we saw the miserable creatures that came over to us upon the decks from Ireland, and in one case there was an instance of the death of a woman and child, who perished on the deck from the exposure at night. That came before our coroner, and we took every pains we could to prevent hardship, by petitioning the Board of Trade to enforce the steamboat regulations, under the powers given to them by the different Acts, namely, the 6th of George the 4th, the 4th & 5th of William the 4th, the 9th & 10th of Victoria, and 11th & 12th of Victoria. All those Acts, if properly enforced, I believe would prevent what is the great grievance of sending these poor creatures over upon deck without any cover, or anything to shelter them from the hardship of the weather. If that was done I do not see why there need be any harsh removals or any cruelty. God forbid that there should be. I should be very sorry if the retention of any law could inflict anything like harshness or cruelty upon any human beings, and particularly the Irish.

5021. *Chairman.*] Have you any further information or suggestion which you are desirous of bringing before the Committee?—I do not think I have; unless you would wish me to read what our vestry clerk has put down in the paper before me with reference to the subject; it is not very long.

5022. Is that Mr. Hart?—Mr. Hart.

5023. Does he give any information or suggestions in addition to your own?—He apprehends that immigration would set in to a very great amount if the power of removal was abrogated. There is rather an important subject mentioned here, which perhaps I may be permitted to bring before the Committee.

5024. I suppose the vestry clerk has a good deal to do with the management of the poor?—Yes.

5025. Will you read his statement?—I would read this if it is your pleasure, because it refers to something upon which you will perhaps find it expedient to examine Mr. Carr, the governor of our workhouse. The vestry clerk says, "Immigration of vast numbers would again set in, encouraged as it would again be by low fares, which have sometimes been from 6 *d.* to 1 *s.* per head, owing to competition between the rival steam packet companies;" that I know of my own personal knowledge. He says that it would also be encouraged by the assistance given to them by parties in Ireland; and he then says, "It is notorious" (I do not know that I could exactly assert that) "that great numbers of very wretched people are sent over from Ireland to Liverpool to be supported by the public, and when taken up for begging generally prefer prison to being sent back to Ireland. It is a very common thing for husbands to leave their families unprovided for in Ireland while they come over to England for work; when friends are tired of supporting them they are sent over to England in search of their husbands, and if they do not find them, have to be sent back by the parish; this is a very numerous class, and, as an instance, may be given the case of Julia O'Brien and six children, who were passed back to Dublin on the 23d March last. This woman said she had been sent over by two clergymen to look for her husband, who had deserted her for three months; that the clergymen had been relieving her the whole time, but could do it no longer; she had been only three days in Liverpool when she became chargeable." Mr. Carr, our governor, has some evidence, I believe, to give with respect to another case, if he is called upon to do so; and a member of our Board of Guardians, of the name of Johnson, told me that an Irishman had applied to him for work, and that he had asked him why he came over; and the Irishman's answer was, that his master, with whom he had been working, had no more work for him, and had given him 2 *s.* 6 *d.* to come over to Liverpool.

5026. Mr. *Maguire.*] From what part of Ireland?—I cannot pretend to say: this was told me by Mr. Johnson, and there were no particulars given. The vestry clerk proceeds to say, "The immigration would also be powerfully encouraged by the total absence of out-door relief in Ireland, where out-door relief is declared

declared by the Poor Law Commissioners, in their Second Report, to be impracticable." He then furnishes me with a table of the number of persons who have been passed to Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man, and Guernsey, from the 26th of December 1845 to the 25th of December 1853, with the expense.

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[*The Witness delivered in the same, which is as follows:*]

NUMBER of PAUPERS passed to *Ireland*, *Scotland*, *Isle of Man*, and *Guernsey*, from 26 December 1845 to 25 December 1853, with the Expense.

	Total Passed.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Isle of Man.	Guernsey.	TOTAL COST.
						£. s. d.
26 Dec. 1845 to 25 Dec. 1846 -	5,649	5,313	330	6	- -	1,197 1 6
26 Dec. 1846 to 25 Dec. 1847 -	15,472	15,008	443	21	- -	4,175 11 3
26 Dec. 1847 to 25 Dec. 1848 -	8,239	7,607	612	20	- -	2,459 8 6
26 Dec. 1848 to 25 Dec. 1849 -	10,071	9,509	543	19	- -	2,568 3 10
26 Dec. 1849 to 25 Dec. 1850 -	8,102	7,627	463	12	- -	1,487 15 6
26 Dec. 1850 to 25 Dec. 1851 -	8,232	7,808	406	13	5	1,968 19 10
26 Dec. 1851 to 25 Dec. 1852 -	6,004	5,506	483	9	6	1,460 2 6
26 Dec. 1852 to 25 Dec. 1853 -	4,820	4,503	302	13	2	1,124 13 6

The Witness.—In 1847, the time of our pressure, we passed 15,008 persons to Ireland; and the vestry clerk says, "What would Liverpool have done with this mass of poor destitutes if there had been no power to remove them, even at their own request?" If the power of removal is abrogated, you cannot remove an Irishman at all, even if he wishes it; they sometimes come to us, requesting to be removed; we could not do it.

5027. Sir *J. Pakington.*] Requesting to go home?—Requesting to go home sometimes. "Under these circumstances the select vestry desire for the interest of the contributors to the rates, as also of the poor themselves, to retain the law in its existing form. They find, from long experience, that it acts as a powerful check against pauperism. The knowledge which the labouring classes possess, that to obtain parochial relief subjects them to removal, stimulates them to increased exertion to support themselves; and it may be fairly assumed that a large number of the Irish labourers of Liverpool owe their independence to the present law. On the other hand, the law has always been carried out in Liverpool with humanity and discretion; no pauper is removed, who up to the last moment, expresses his desire to make a renewed effort at self-support. Facility is even afforded him to accomplish that object, by granting occasional relief in seasons of temporary depression. Again, the wife and family of a man have now a direct interest in seeing that the husband does not desert them and so leave them liable to be removed. No workhouse test, under the proposed condition of the law, would be of any avail; in the Irish workhouses, at present, notwithstanding this test, most rigorously applied and accompanied with the most discouraging dietary, are to be found large numbers of able-bodied paupers."

5028. Mr. *Maguire.*] Of what date is that?—I received this from the vestry clerk the day before yesterday; it is merely an assertion of his. "In the providing of workhouses, the select vestry consider that they have already done their duty, having, at an expense exceeding 160,000 *l.*, erected two workhouses," that is, the workhouse in Liverpool and the industrial school, "which have become wholly occupied by inmates, more than one-third of whom belong to Ireland."

5029. The assertion of that official is, that in spite of the rigorous test as the

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means of preventing application to the Irish workhouses, there is a very large number of able-bodied men in the Irish workhouses?—Yes.

5030. Would you say that 7,800 represented that very large number which he speaks of, comprised under the head of able-bodied in Ireland?—No; I should think not in the whole of Ireland.

5031. Then his assertion is not worth very much?—Not very much, in that case.

5032. Your apprehensions for the future seem to be based to a certain extent upon your knowledge of the past?—Yes.

5033. Have you any knowledge of what the state of Ireland was in 1846 and 1847?—Not personal knowledge. I was not in Ireland, but of course I read the newspapers, and I read the accounts that were daily reported to us. I believe I have as good a knowledge upon the subject as any man can have who was not a personal observer.

5034. No doubt your attention was very much called to the state of Ireland, in consequence of the number of Irish people that became a burthen to the rate-payers of Liverpool?—Yes.

5035. The condition of that country was therefore a matter of very great anxiety to a person who was much engaged in the administration of the relief of the poor?—Yes.

5036. I believe since 1845 the calculation is, that at least from two to three millions of the population have died or left the country?—Yes.

5037. I believe up to a very late period, the rate of wages in Ireland was very miserable?—Yes.

5038. I belive in some instances it was as low as 6*d.* per day?—Yes.

5039. That is within the range of your information?—Yes.

5040. You are also aware that within the last few years, about 12 millions worth of property has changed hands in that country?—Yes.

5041. I believe you are also aware that evictions have ceased to a very great extent in Ireland?—I believe so.

5042. Are you aware that there is not the same inducement for proprietors to get rid of those living on their estates that there was at that time?—Certainly.

5043. And the fact is that these evictions have altogether ceased?—I am told that they have ceased in a great measure.

5044. You do not hear of them now?—No.

5045. Have you seen the late report of the Poor-law Commissioners, the report issued a few days since?—I have not.

5046. If it be stated on the authority of the Poor-law Commissioners that the employment of agricultural labourers is more continuous than it ever has been before, and that the wages have materially increased, would your apprehensions for the future be as lively as they would be without such information, as to a continuing and increasing influx of Irish poor?—My answer to that will be a reference to the report which I have already presented, that the Irish immigration does not diminish; and I would further observe that whatever rise of wages there may be in Ireland, there will be a proportionate rise of wages in England, which will always make the wages higher in England than in Ireland; and consequently the Irish will continue to flow in where they can get the highest wages.

5047. You say that there is an undiminished flow of the class of people whom you would represent as Irish paupers into Liverpool; will you have the goodness to look at this return, and state what it is?—"A return of the number of Irish poor brought over monthly, to the port of Liverpool, from the coast of Ireland, in each of the last five years, distinguishing, as far as possible, those who remain in this country from those who emigrate across the seas."

5048. Will you have the goodness to look at the column representing the pauper emigration?—"Deck passengers, apparently paupers."

5049. What is the number there given for the first three months of this year; you see the total down, I believe, as 4,521?—Four thousand five hundred and twenty-one.

5050. Will you look to 1849, to the first three months, and see if my calculation, 16,488, is right, by adding up the figures there?—Yes.

5051. In 1851 I think you will find that there were 14,056?—Yes.

5052. For 1852 I think you will find the figures 8,667?—Yes.

5053. For 1853 you will find that in the first three months the number was 8,861?—Yes.

5054. And that, by the return there given for 1854, it is 4,521?—Yes.

5055. Is

5055. Is there not a sensible and increasing diminution?—The numbers always fluctuate.

5056. That is an official return?—Of course.

5057. A reliable return?—Of course I can give but one answer, that there is a diminution.

5058. There is a decrease from 16,488, in 1849, to 4,521 this year?—Doubtless.

5059. Can you form any inference from that?—I cannot form any accurate inference, because I do not know what the cause of that fluctuation may be; it is perfectly evident on the face of it; I draw no other inference, but that the influx is very fluctuating.

5060. You stated distinctly to the Committee that the migration from Ireland to Liverpool was not diminished; how do you reconcile that statement with these figures?—I stated it for four years, having no reference at all to this year; I gave the figures for 1850, 1851, 1852, and 1853, and I showed, by the table, that the number in 1853 was larger than in 1851; of course I could only judge from the figures before me at the time.

5061. Supposing I take 1854 out of the way, how do these returns justify your assertion, when, in 1851, for the first three months, there were of the class that are designated in that report as paupers 14,056, while, in 1853, there were but 8,861?—If I may be permitted to answer that in brief, my assertion only went to this, from the figures before me, that the number of paupers who arrived in Liverpool from Ireland, in 1853, was 71,353, and in 1851, 68,134; I asserted nothing more than that, and I intended to make no assertion with regard to 1854.

5062. Is there not a very marked difference between 14,000 odd in 1851, and 8,861 in 1853?—Very marked.

5063. Between 1853 and 1854 is there not even a more marked difference still; two to one?—Doubtless.

5064. Eight thousand eight hundred and sixty-one in one year and but 4,500 in the other?—Doubtless, by those returns; but then I would answer to that, that the numbers are very fluctuating indeed. Last June the number who came over was 24,492.

5065. Mr. *J. Ball.*] How are they described?—As "Passengers, apparently paupers." I wish to show that the immigration is very fluctuating, and in last year I wish to show, merely from the table before me (of course, I have no other means of information, and I believe I asserted nothing more, at least I did not intend to assert anything more), that the number of passengers, apparently paupers, was larger than it was in 1851, being 71,353 in one case, and 68,134 in the other: and I go on now to show, from this same table, that the number of that class of persons who came over last June was 24,492, a larger number than it had ever been in the previous three years.

5066. Mr. *Maguire.*] What class of persons came over in June?—I should think that a good many of them must be agricultural labourers.

5067. For saving the English harvest?—Yes.

5068. If those people did not come over, I believe, according to your own statement, a very great injury would be inflicted upon England?—We should be very badly off.

5069. That is to say, without the advantage of the Irish "screw" to keep down the exorbitant demands of English labourers?—I am perfectly willing to make that avowal, as my own opinion.

5070. Do you mean then to represent this number which came over in June as a great evil to England or the contrary?—Mixed, I should say; for this reason, which I have already mentioned. I have stated what I believe to be the fact, that a labourer comes over, in very many cases, with his wife and children, goes up into the country to look for work, and leaves his wife and children to be supported by the people of Liverpool.

5071. Does that labourer, according to your information, remain in England, or go back again to Ireland?—I cannot say, but my impression would be that he goes back.

5072. Does he take his family with him?—I am now speaking very vaguely; I can hardly speak to that; my impression would be that he takes his family back.

5073. Then your impression is, that he does not leave his family a burthen to England?—Not in every case.

5074. Your general impression is that he does not?—Yes.

5075. And your knowledge is, that the coming over of these labourers is of immense

immense service to England, and I believe I may add that the people of England could not save the harvest without their assistance?—That I am perfectly willing to confess with regard to England, I was only speaking with regard to Liverpool. If you press me, I do not think that it is any very great advantage to the people of Liverpool, that a hard working labouring man, should go up into the country to reap the harvest, and leave a wife and five or six children to be kept by the people of Liverpool.

5076. Is not one cause of your apprehension the future facility of these people obtaining passage money; the facility of transit?—That is one cause.

5077. I believe a very large number come from the southern ports, from Waterford and Cork?—Yes.

5078. Would you say that 12 *s.* for a deck passage from Cork to Liverpool is such a rate of passage money as would be likely to excite your alarm of a great pauper migration?—Certainly not.

5079. Do you know what the fare is?—I do not know what the fare is just now.

5080. If you were told on my own authority that it is 12 *s.*, and that it is likely to increase, would your apprehension of an influx of Irish paupers from the south of Ireland be much excited?—No; if I thought the fares would always keep up to 12 *s.*, or increase, I should not have much alarm of an immigration from Cork.

5081. I believe a very large number come from Cork to Liverpool?—I am not aware; but I may, perhaps, be permitted to observe, that the fares were as low as 1 *s.*

5082. What was the reason of that?—Competition.

5083. Opposition, rather, was it not?—Opposition.

5084. And that opposition is not to be taken as a rule, but as an exception?—No; it may occur again.

5085. But does not it occur for a very short interval?—It lasted a good while; I cannot exactly say how long.

5086. Supposing it did continue at the present moment, is it likely that it would be attended with the same results, inasmuch as there is a greatly diminished population from what there was before?—Certainly not the same results; I said that it would not be equal in intensity to the influx of 1847, but from its permanent character equally injurious to the interests of the people of Liverpool. I do not know that it may be worth their while, I will not say that it would be worth their while, to come over at 12 *s.*, but it might be worth their while to come over from Dublin, as they now do, if they were able permanently to remain in Liverpool.

5087. Is it very likely that a man destitute of means, whom you class under the head of pauper, could come himself from Cork or from Dublin to Liverpool, and bring his wife and bring his children?—It would be utterly impossible if he were destitute of means.

5088. Do you think that a great number of those persons who merely leave Ireland and go to England for the purpose of reaping the harvest, would be likely, with such a restriction as that high rate of passage money, to bring their wives and families with them, for a mere temporary sojourn?—It is not that class of persons that I am at all afraid of; it is not the class of persons that come over to work.

5089. What class is it?—The class of persons that come over to beg.

5090. Is not the case stronger when you apply it merely to those who come to beg?—I do not think it is, because there are means of supplying them with money.

5091. Will you give the Committee as much information as you possibly can upon those "means" which you dwell upon?—I am not competent to give it; but a witness who is present, I believe, can give some information as to that particular.

5092. *Chairman.*] What witness do you allude to?—Mr. Carr.

5093. Mr. *Maguire.*] It is quite possible that Mr. Carr or you can give a few isolated instances; but have you yourself any knowledge of an organised system of sending over people from Ireland to England merely for the purpose of throwing them upon the English rates?—None whatever.

5094. Then why do you dwell upon those means, as you call them?—You asked me if I had any knowledge of an extensive organization for the purpose; I have none; but I can only judge from isolated facts of the possibility; it is merely

merely an apprehension in my own mind, possibly a groundless apprehension, but it is an apprehension, and a conscientiously felt apprehension, and I am bound of course to express it; it may be totally wrong.

5095. Is it not quite possible, that under any circumstances or at any time, a charitable individual might give a wife or a daughter sufficient means to carry over that person to that person's husband or mother industriously engaged in England; that is possible at all times, is it not?—Quite possible.

5096. But would you argue from isolated cases of that kind, that there are such means applied to such a purpose as ought reasonably excite the alarm of English ratepayers?—Yes, I think I should.

5097. You would argue from solitary cases of that kind?—Yes, I think I should; there is a case mentioned by the vestry clerk, of two clergymen who supported a family as long as they were able to support them, and then sent them over to England.

5098. And would you argue from that case, which I say exhibits a very proper feeling on the part of those gentlemen, that there is as it were a general conspiracy on the part of all persons in Ireland to get rid of their poor and throw them upon the English ratepayers?—Certainly not.

5099. I believe you are aware that no Boards of Guardians in Ireland are competent to expend one farthing for that purpose?—I should presume that it is contrary to law; I really do not know.

5100. Is it likely, with the constant supervision of the Poor-law Commissioners, that any Board of Guardians in Ireland would violate the law?—I can only say it ought not to be.

5101. Do you know of your own knowledge, that all the accounts of Boards of Guardians in Ireland are submitted to auditors, and that no illegal item can be passed by those auditors?—I know perfectly well that no member of a Board of Guardians would dare to expend public funds; but I am not quite sure, that is to say, I do not know it as a fact, that a member of a Board of Guardians would not give some money out of his own pocket for that purpose.

5102. I believe you will admit that members of Boards of Guardians would very soon revolt against these frequent appeals to their sympathy and humanity; it is not likely that the response would be very continuous, is it?—I think not.

5103. And therefore your alarm may merely be considered as visionary; it comes to that?—I am not of that opinion; I am firmly convinced that there is great ground of apprehension; that opinion, of course, may be wrong; the apprehension certainly may be visionary, but that is my firm conviction, from an experience, and an impartial experience, and a perfectly disinterested experience, of 20 years. I have no personal interest in it whatever; the pecuniary charge upon me is not worth consideration, and therefore I have no personal pecuniary interest in it; but my firm conviction, from an experience of 20 years, is, as I have expressed to the Committee, that it will be very dangerous to the interests of the people of Liverpool to give the people of Ireland to understand that they cannot be removed as paupers.

5104. If I mistake not, that has nothing whatever to do with the question which you were asked by me?—Perhaps not; I beg pardon; but I may be allowed to say, that you asked me whether I did not consider my own apprehensions visionary; at least I understood it so.

5105. Are your apprehensions visionary as to the application of any fund to the transmission of Irish paupers from Ireland to England, for the purpose of throwing them upon the English rates?—No, I do not think that visionary; I think it very possible.

5106. You think it very possible that charitable individuals may now and then exercise their charity for the purpose of uniting members of a family who have been separated?—I think it very possible that charitable individuals may send over paupers from Ireland to England.

5107. Mr. *Liddell.*] Or that interested individuals may do so?—Possibly; I do not wish to use the word "interested," because that would convey a reproach.

5108. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you any instance within your knowledge of those interested persons to whom the Honourable Member alludes, having sent over Irish paupers?—I have not; for that I would refer to the governor.

5109. If I mistake not, you said that when parties applied for relief they were told that if they got relief they would be liable to be sent back to Ireland?—Yes.

5110. Is that a very common announcement made by the poor-law officials in

Liverpool to an Irish applicant for relief?—It is not common now, because Irish do not apply for relief, knowing that if they do apply they will be sent back.

5111. When was it common?—It was more common immediately after the passing of that Act to which I have alluded; and that accounts for the diminution of relief to which I adverted in the former part of my examination.

5112. It was common in what year?—1847. I told the Committee that the relief had fallen from 748 *l.* in one week, till at last it had diminished to 90 *l.* odd; and I believe that it is owing to that. The Irish cease to apply because they know that they would be removed if they did.

5113. Since 1847 have not Irish poor applied for relief?—Yes.

5114. Has that announcement been made to them since 1847?—Of course not where it was thought they were entitled to relief.

5115. What do you mean by "entitled to relief"?—If they were really persons that deserved relief, and had not come there merely for the purpose of being supported by the parish rates.

5116. Was every case minutely investigated before that announcement was made?—I cannot say that, because I am not employed personally in the administration of relief.

5117. You gave figures, showing that a considerable number of Irish had been committed in certain years?—Yes.

5118. That a considerable number were in the gaol, and that a considerable number were unfortunately amongst the most miserable class of society, the prostitutes. In case a destitute person applied to an officer, and was told by that officer, "I will send you back to Ireland, if I give you relief," and that person left the officer, not wishing to go to Ireland, might not that practical refusal of relief account in some degree for the crime and the infamy which these returns would exhibit?—The only answer which I can give to that is that which is given in the vestry clerk's report to me: "On the other hand, the law has always been carried out in Liverpool with humanity and discretion. No pauper is removed who up to the last moment expresses his desire to make a renewed effort at self-support; facility is even afforded him to accomplish that object, by granting occasional relief in seasons of temporary depression."

5119. Did not you state to the Committee that in many instances where persons applied for relief, they were told that if they got it they would be sent to Ireland?—Doubtless.

5120. And that they went away?—Doubtless.

5121. What means of support had those people then?—I do not know, I am sure.

5122. It is quite probable that they might have had none?—Very possible.

5123. And then their only resource would be either thieving or prostitution?—Very possible.

5124. Do you mean to represent to the Committee, by those figures which you have given with reference to prostitution, that the influx of Irish female poor has been injurious to the moral character of the English female poor?—No; not of the English female poor; that may be a deduction in your mind, but it is not in mine. I think that the immigration of Irish poor is injurious to the interests and to the morals of the English poor; I do not specify anything about sexes.

5125. I believe that the Liverpool workhouse is very well managed?—I believe so too.

5126. It is as well managed, I believe, as any workhouse in the empire?—I think it is now.

5127. And you have one of the most vigilant and effective officers that any Board of Guardians almost ever had?—That is my opinion, I am happy to say.

5128. I suppose the discipline is tolerably strict?—I believe not very strict; but I cannot speak to that.

5129. It is not lax?—I should hope not.

5130. Then it is strict, you would say?—No; the discipline need not be strict, because it is not lax; there is a *viâ media* in all things, and I hope that *viâ media* is chosen by the present governor of the workhouse. Perhaps I may be permitted to add, that at the time of our distress, our workhouse was, from particular causes, the very bad health of the then governor, not in the best possible state; it was not well managed. I make no reflection upon the poor man, who is now gone; he was in very bad health.

5131. Husband and wife are separated as they are in the Irish workhouses, I believe?—I should wish to refer to the governor in answer to that.

5132. Of your own knowledge, do not you know that husband and wife are separated?—I do not know.

5133. Do not you know of your own knowledge, that children and mothers are separated?—I do not.

5134. You referred to the hardships which these poor people suffer by being sent over from Ireland to England?—I mentioned a case; there was a coroner's inquest upon the case to which I have a reference, which was very distressing.

5135. Was that a pauper sent from Liverpool to Ireland?—No; it was a person who came over from Ireland to England. The woman and child were both quite well when they left Dublin; the night was very cold and the sea very rough. About daylight the next morning they complained very much of cold; they were not able to get shelter anywhere; a few hours after they first began to complain of cold, they both died.

5136. In what season of the year was it?—The 21st of April 1849; and I mention that in order to show that it had been very distressing to us. I went up myself, and saw Sir George Grey and Mr. Labouchere, who was then the President of the Board of Trade, to entreat that something might be done to prevent the possibility of such a thing occurring again.

5137. Do the Liverpool Board of Guardians, or vestry, limit their transmission of paupers to Ireland to any particular season of the year?—Upon that I should wish to refer to Mr. Evans, who is present; he is the superintendent of our pass-department, and he can answer those questions from personal knowledge, which I cannot.

5138. You do not know, of your own knowledge, that paupers are sent to Ireland in the winter?—No; I should wish the Honourable Member to understand that I really am not very well acquainted, personally, with the details of those matters; mine is rather general knowledge; and I should wish to refer to the officers who are personally engaged in the detail for answers to these questions. I will answer any question that I am able to answer.

5139. Do you know, of your own knowledge, whether the desire for emigration has extended from the Irish to the English; when I speak of "emigration" I mean emigration either to the States, to Canada, or to Australia?—Yes; I know of my own personal knowledge that it has.

5140. Is that desire to emigrate on the increase, do you think?—I do not think it is very general among the English labourers. I happen to be acquainted with two or three cases of persons who have recently applied to my son, who is a clergyman, for testimonials, because they wished to emigrate to Australia; but I do not think that it is very general among the English.

5141. Have you heard that many of the Irish, who might be described as settled in Liverpool, have also been seized with this desire to emigrate?—I have not heard anything upon it.

5142. But you do know that the emigration from Ireland is still going on almost with as deep and rapid a stream as in former years?—I believe so; and my friend, Mr. Welsh, the chaplain of the emigrants, tells me that he thinks there is not a probability of much cessation. He thinks that there will be a vast number of emigrants this year.

5143. Is it not natural, from the experience of the past, to predict, that inasmuch as the Irish who went over some years back drew after them a very large number of their friends and relatives, the greater number who have gone up to this time will also be likely to attract a very considerable number of those who are still remaining in Ireland?—I should say it was very probable.

5144. Considering that the population of Ireland of the poorer class is very greatly diminished by famine and emigration, and that a very large number is likely to leave the country in future years, as at present, how do you reconcile your alarm and apprehension with the state of facts as they exist?—I can only refer to the answer which I gave in the first instance. I do not expect an infliction equal in intensity to that of 1847; but I believe that, from its permanent character, it may become equally injurious to the interests of the people of Liverpool.

5145. If I mistake not, the phrase which you used was, that you apprehended an enormous influx of Irish poor if the law were abolished or altered?—Possibly

I used the word "enormous;" and if I did, that, perhaps, might have been an exaggerated expression.

5146. Taking every circumstance into consideration, do you still adhere to that expression, "enormous influx"?—I do not know that I would adhere strictly to the epithet "enormous," because it is somewhat contradictory to my previous expression, and somewhat contradictory to my opinions. To repeat my own words, I do not expect an influx equal in intensity, and therefore, perhaps, I do not expect an "enormous influx;" but I expect an infliction which, from its permanent character, may be equally injurious to the interests of the people of Liverpool.

5147. In reference to what gives a man a right not to be removed, does your definition of it coincide with that of the Act of Parliament, that a man has a right not to be removed if he has resided in a parish for five years without asking for parochial relief?—Certainly. Some of our officers have complained of that five years' residence Act as a grievance; I do not. Others of our officers think that we gain as much as we lose, and that the five years' residence Act does us no harm. My impression is, that the five years' residence Act is one that ought to be preserved; but I do not wish that time to be curtailed.

5148. If I mistake not, you ventured a negative definition of industrial residence; I think you said that in the case of a man who worked four days in the week, and got drunk the two others, his was not an industrial residence?—I said that he worked three or four days, and perhaps got drunk the rest; I said that I knew a man of that character.

5149. Would you say that that man, even though he lived in that very foolish way for himself, and did not apply for parochial relief in five years, ought not to establish a residence?—No.

5150. You would not say that that is not an industrial residence?—No; I do not think it is.

5151. Then you would have five years of such a life, without any application to the parish, as a residence?—Yes; I must submit to that infliction.

5152. *Chairman.*] The word "industrial" does not occur in the Act of Parliament?—No, it does not. I believe I said, that I understood that it had been proposed to require a certain period of industrial residence; and I then said that I really did not know what "industrial residence" was defined to be.

5153. Mr. *Liddell.*] But you would infer that any residence for five years in which the party had neither applied to the parish for relief, nor been convicted of any illegal pursuit or traffic, was legally an industrial residence?—Yes; my impression is that that carries it far enough from what I have heard; I should not wish it myself to be curtailed.

5154. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is it your opinion, that the law, as it exists, is not sufficiently stringent for the protection of the ratepayers?—My opinion is, that it is sufficiently stringent; I do not think that it ought to be made more so.

5155. I think you said something about requiring a stricter proof of residence?—Some of our parochial officers have said that that ought to be the case, but I must confess that I do not think so myself; that is to say, it would be well that we should have a strict proof of residence, if we could get it; but I do not exactly see how we can get it, in a population of 258,000 souls. Our parish officers believe that it is frequently claimed unjustly; that they have not resided five years; but in so large a parish it is very difficult to disprove the assertion; at the same time I am bound to say that whenever the Testament is put into the hands of an Irishman, with the cross upon it, he will not take a false oath.

5156. That is your belief?—I am told that he will not take a false oath, and I think, when the final test is put, we arrive at sufficient certainty. With regard to the five years' residence Act, perhaps I may be permitted to say that it works rather more hardly upon us in Liverpool than it does in the London parishes. In the London parishes, which are very small, the parties are continually shifting, and they therefore lose their five years' residence; in a population of 258,000 souls in a vast area, they may shift 50 times in a year, and still be in the same parish; therefore we have more of that class of settlers than they have in the London parishes, or in small parishes; but my own private opinion is that we have no right to complain of the five years' residence Act, and I wish to retain it.

5157. You say it works hardly upon the ratepayers; does not the law work very hardly upon the poor people?—I trust it does not in Liverpool; I cannot say

say, because, as I have before observed, I am not personally engaged in the administration of relief.

5158. By the existing law, you can send any person over to Ireland who has not a residence, and who becomes chargeable?—Yes; and that law may be carried out very inhumanly, but I trust and hope that it is not so in Liverpool.

5159. *Chairman.*] Do you know that the words of the Act of Parliament are, after prescribing that the party shall be summoned, "That the justices, if they see fit, may make and issue a warrant under their hands and seals"?—Yes, certainly.

5160. There is a certain discretion left to them?—Yes; if there is any inhumanity, it is the fault of the justices.

5161. Mr. *Maguire.*] But at the same time the law gives certain authorities the power of sending over a man who has applied for relief, and has not a residence?—Not the parish officers; but the law gives the magistrates the power, and I hope they do not abuse it.

5162. The magistrate interferes upon the application of the parochial authority?—Yes.

5163. Do not you think that the law affects a man of this kind very harshly and unjustly; supposing a man comes over to England at the age of 20, and resides here until he is 40; that he has lived a portion of that time in London without ever applying for parochial relief; that he has lived another portion of it in Liverpool, but still has not lived a sufficient time to establish a complete bar to removal; do not you think that it is a very serious hardship that that man who never has applied for parochial relief until visited by infirmity, or accident, or want of employment, should be sent over to Ireland?—Perhaps my opinion is not worth having, upon the point; but I certainly should say, that if a man has lived industriously in England 20 years he ought not to be sent back to Ireland.

5164. It is your opinion that he ought not to be sent back?—If he has lived industriously in England 20 years.

5165. If that be your opinion, are you for the continuance of a law which gives the magistrate, or the parochial authorities, the power of sending that man back?—I am for the continuance of the five years' Residence Act.

5166. No matter what misery it may inflict?—No, I will not say that; God forbid I should say that.

5167. Is not a case of the kind that I have given to you probable?—No.

5168. You never heard of a person having been industriously occupied for 20 years in England being sent back to Ireland?—I never heard of it.

5169. But if you knew that it did inflict misery of that kind, and that such cases would occur, would you be for a relaxation of that law?—Yes.

5170. Mr. *Ingham.*] I believe you say that you think it is impossible to have the Irish and the English submitted to the same workhouse test, from the great dissimilarity of their previous habits and character?—Yes.

5171. In what respect do you think that the character and the previous habits of the Irish would make it impossible to apply an efficient test?—I have only referred to these dietaries.

5172. Then it is merely as to the scale of living; have you ever been in Ireland yourself and inspected any of the workhouses there?—I have been in Ireland, but I have never inspected any of the workhouses.

5173. Has it ever occurred to you that the cleanliness and order which are required in an English workhouse might make it a very deterring process to an Irishman, even although the quantum of relief in regard to his diet was greater than he was accustomed to in his own country?—That would be my impression; but I would again refer to the governor of our workhouse for personal knowledge upon those points.

5174. I believe you said that you considered it to be likely if there was an increase of wages in Ireland that there would be an increase of wages in England?—That is my belief.

5175. And therefore you think that there would be a similar attraction to the Irish emigrant?—That is my conviction.

5176. But would it not be an attraction to a different class of persons, those who would live upon the improved wages?—Yes; but you must always bear in mind what I said, that the labourer comes over, and brings sometimes his wife and children with him, and leaves them behind him in Liverpool.

5177. That is the case with those persons who come over for the season r —Yes.

5178. But if there was a permanent increase in English wages to bring any larger quantity of industrious population over from Ireland, although for a short time they might leave their families chargeable in Liverpool, yet would you not expect them to become better settled as soon as they got a relish for the comforts which greater wages give?—Possibly.

5179. Possibly upon the whole you look with somewhat of hopefulness to any improved immigration from Ireland, the rate of wages increasing at home?—Possibly; but my present impression is, that the Irish had better stay in Ireland, and that their labour is wanted there.

5180. Mr. *J. Ball.*] What do you consider the main cause of the disposition of the Irish poor to come from Ireland to England?—There is a tendency in all classes, both English and Irish, to flock to the great towns. The moment they are out of work they start off to Liverpool, or some great town that is convenient to them, in the hope of getting work; that is very strong on the Irish mind, and they do come in great numbers. I have mentioned an instance of which I cannot give the particulars, but it was told to me by a very respectable man, on whose veracity I rely, one of our Board of Guardians, that an Irishman applied to him for work; that he could not give him any work, and he said to him, "Why have you come over?" and the man said that his master had given him 2 *s.* 6 *d.* to come over to Liverpool to look for work. I do not blame that master for giving the 2 *s.* 6 *d.*; he was very welcome, if the man was an industrious man, to give him that encouragement, and hold out to him the hope that work could be obtained in Liverpool, but that is the tendency.

5181. Is it safe, according to your knowledge, to ascribe the general tendency of the Irish poor to come from Ireland to England to the want of sufficient employment and adequate wages at home, and to the superior rate of wages that they obtain in England?—I cannot say that exactly, but they will, generally speaking, go where they can get the highest wages; and my impression is, that they will always get higher wages in England than in Ireland, and therefore will have an inclination to come over.

5182. Of the large number of Irish poor persons who arrive in Liverpool, is it true that the great majority do come with the view of getting a living by the employment of their industry?—I am not sure of that at all; it is not my impression.

5183. Out of the large number shown in the printed Return, which has been made to The House, upon the motion of the Honourable Member for Liverpool, is it your impression that any considerable proportion are paupers who upon their arrival seek for a livelihood, otherwise than by the employment of their industry?—My fear is, that that is a good deal the case.

5184. With regard to the large number who come over, as you said, 24,000 in the month of July last, does your knowledge of Liverpool lead you to suppose that a considerable proportion of those 24,000 either applied for relief, or obtained a living upon the streets of Liverpool?—They did not apply for relief, I believe; but my belief is, that a great proportion of the mendicants in Liverpool are Irish; and in times of great pressure, we have found it absolutely necessary, on the part of the select vestry, to put placards upon the walls, entreating the inhabitants not to give money to unknown beggars in the street, but to send them, when they apply for relief in the street, either to the parish officers or to the District Provident Society, to which I have referred.

5185. Have you any reliable estimate of the number of Irish mendicants in Liverpool?—No.

5186. Could you form any sort of estimate of them?—I can only state that estimate, which is given in the table to which I have referred, the District Provident Society, where in one year we relieved 18,000 people.

5187. Supposing there were even now 18,000 or 20,000 in Liverpool, that would be the proportion of mendicancy remaining out of the many hundreds of thousands who have arrived in Liverpool since the year 1847?—I do not exactly understand the question.

5188. Would not the fair conclusion be that those 18,000 or 20,000 people would only represent those who had remained as beggars in Liverpool, out of the very large number who had come over during the last five or six years?—This report

report says that each number represents a family. "The above numbers relate to families, not individuals."

5189. Is it your belief that there are, at this moment, 20,000 Irish beggars in Liverpool?—I cannot say; all my observations, I should wish to state, are confined to the parish of Liverpool, which contains a population of 258,000, but the borough of Liverpool contains above 400,000.

5190. If it be true that there is anything like that number of mendicants in Liverpool, would it not seem to show that the Vagrant Act is very inadequately enforced?—That it is inoperative.

5191. And from the reason mainly that the overseers of the poor object to maintain the families of those persons who may be inmates of the prison; is that the reason assigned?—That is the reason which Mr. Rushton assigned, and likewise that the gaols are not large enough to hold them.

5192. Is it your opinion that the enforcement of the law has not tended to diminish the frequency of vagrancy, and that if, instead of putting the law into force, it is allowed to become inoperative, the offence will naturally increase?—Very possibly.

5193. Do you happen to know that since the vagrant laws have been put in force in the large towns of Ireland, mendicancy has very considerably diminished, though it has not altogether disappeared?—I beg leave to state that I am not complaining of mendicancy in Liverpool now; I have not heard of any pressure of mendicancy in Liverpool lately.

5194. If it be true that there is not that pressure of mendicancy, does it not seem to show that no very large proportion of the Irish poor, who come over, resort to that mode of living?—It does, to a certain extent, but I am now talking of certain years when there was an enormous pressure. In so large a place there may be a vast amount of mendicity that I know nothing about.

5195. But you do not hear of it as a very grievous thing?—No.

5196. Referring to the present time, is it not true that the main cause which brings the Irish poor from Ireland to Liverpool is the superior rate of wages and the greater demand for labour in Liverpool?—I do not know that that is the case; I cannot say it; it may be so.

5197. If that be the case, does not a law of removal, which tends to throw back the poor upon the part of the empire where there is the least demand for labour, and to remove them from that part where there is the most demand for labour, tend to aggravate a distinction already existing which may be injurious to both countries?—But there is no law which authorises the removal of an industrious labourer, that I am aware of.

5198. Do not frequent cases arise both among the Irish and the English poor in which an industrious man, by accident or misfortune, may be brought to temporary distress and induced to ask for relief, although he may not be permanently disabled?—I can only answer that, by repeating what is said by our officer that the law is always carried out with humanity and discretion.

5199. Is it not a common thing in England as well as in Ireland that an industrious man may be temporarily forced to seek relief who is not permanently disabled from earning his living?—I hope and trust that in such a case the Poor-law officers of the parish of Liverpool would relieve.

5200. In reference to the applications for relief by the Irish poor in Liverpool, is it the practice at present, as far as you know, to give out-door relief to a considerable proportion of those who apply?—It is the practice to give a great deal of out-door relief.

5201. You are aware that in Ireland it has been found that the Irish poor, do very readily apply for out-door relief, but that they have a great reluctance to the confinement of a workhouse?—Yes.

5202. Is that your experience in Liverpool?—I should wish, as an answer to that question, to refer to Mr. Carr.

5203. You have no personal experience of the disposition of the Irish poor, or no information upon which you can sufficiently rely?—I have no information that I can rely upon, and no personal experience. As I before observed I have nothing to do personally with the administration of the relief of the poor.

5204. Is it not a matter of notoriety that the Irish poor generally do very willingly apply for out-door relief?—Yes, these figures, I believe, will answer that question: in 10 years 74,078 *l.* was expended in out-door relief to the Irish; the workhouse relief to them was 44,505 *l.*, the industrial school 5,424 *l.*

. A. Campbell.

9 June 1854.

5205. My question has reference to the policy of the administration of relief to the Irish poor; if it be known that they do resort very readily to one description of relief, and that they do not, without necessity, resort to the other, do not you think that it is justifiable and even expedient to give that description of relief which is only resorted to in cases of real necessity?—Highly expedient. I should say that the workhouse test should be applied wherever it could.

5206. So far as that portion of the Irish poor who have come to England, with a view to relief, and not for employment, are concerned, do you not think that the fact that out-door relief was given very extensively for many years by the parochial authorities of Liverpool, and, that in addition to that, a very extensive system of out-door relief (for it amounts to that) was given voluntarily by a society, may have had a great deal to do towards bringing that very class of Irish poor to Liverpool?—Possibly it has.

5207. Are you aware that in Ireland it has been found that the number of those seeking for relief has always been enormously reduced, when that relief has been confined exclusively to the workhouse?—I am not aware of that, but I should think it very likely.

5208. Therefore your apprehension as to the future, arising in a great measure from what has already taken place, may be increased by the fact, that the particular mode of relief which has been given, has had a great deal to do in bringing such a very large influx of the poorer class of Irish?—To say the honest truth, I do not think from what I have seen, that our out-door relief is of a very splendid nature; I do not think that we give anything very attractive in the way of food to the paupers out of doors; I do not think it ought to be any great attraction to them.

5209. Still you may be possibly aware that in the city of Dublin, when relief was confined to a single meal out of the workhouse, and when the alternative of relief in the workhouse was offered to so large a number at one time as 23,000, who had been in receipt of that out-relief, not above 3,000 accepted the workhouse test?—I am very well aware of the workhouse test; I think it is a very wise provision, but my conviction is, that if the power of removal is taken away, we shall have to increase our workhouse accommodation enormously. We have already spent 160,000 *l.* in workhouse buildings. I believe that we shall have to enlarge them very considerably if we have to apply the workhouse test.

5210. Would not the experience of Ireland seem to show that the amount of workhouse accommodation required, will ultimately be very much less than you now apprehend from the number of those who apply for out-door relief?—Possibly.

5211. The same class of persons being dealt with in both countries?—Yes.

5212. With reference to the printed Return to the House of Commons of the number of Irish immigrants into Liverpool, of whom one portion are described as apparently paupers, does that mean that they were persons who subsist by their labour from day to day, or persons who arrived in an actually destitute state?—I cannot say.

5213. You stated that there were 24,000 in the month of June last?—Yes.

5214. Did you ascertain at any time how many of those ever asked for relief?—No.

5215. Or did you take any means of testing the condition of those persons, or their mode of employment, and of passing their time after their landing?—I should think the parish accounts, if looked into, would be able to answer that question, by showing whether there was any particular pressure upon the poor-rate at that time; but I am not aware.

5216. You stated, however, in answer to an honourable Member that your belief was that a large proportion of those 24,000 came to seek agricultural employment?—I should think it would be the case from the time of year; I have no personal knowledge, but such is my impression.

5217. Is it or not your opinion that the description of them as "paupers" is an inaccurate one?—I really cannot say.

5218. Is it your belief that they are not paupers but labourers?—I cannot say; I cannot answer for the accuracy of the return; I merely state that it is an official return, and that those who made it ought to know their business sufficiently to give an accurate report.

5219. Have you at any time considered whether the law of removal, not only as affecting the transmission from Liverpool to Ireland, but as affecting the rest of

of the country, may tend very materially to keep in such a large town as Liverpool, persons who otherwise would naturally go into other places in England to seek and possibly find employment?—That is not my impression.

5220. Is it not true that persons who are legally liable to removal if they ask for relief, but who wish to avoid removal, may manage to linger in a large town with more ease than they could in a country district?—That I should think.

5221. Then is it not a fair inference that very many persons who might obtain employment in country districts or small towns in other parts of England, are kept in Liverpool by that apprehension of being removed?—I do not think so; I think there is, if I may so say, a prejudice on the minds of that class of people in favour of the great towns.

5222. Then you do not think that that feeling or prejudice is increased by the knowledge that, under the system of removal, they cannot settle and obtain a permanent position in country parts and small towns?—No, that is not my impression; I may be wrong.

5223. You consider, upon the whole, that it would be a great evil in Liverpool, if the power of removal were taken away?—Yes.

5224. And you think it just that it should be maintained?—I think it just that it should be maintained, under proper restrictions to prevent hardship and inhuman removals. I am anxious that that power should be retained as a precautionary measure, *in terrorem*, if I may venture to use the expression, preventing anything like abuse. I am hardly able to say how that abuse should be prevented; I trust that it does not exist in the parish of Liverpool; but I think that the Legislature should take care that that power, if retained, should not be abused.

5225. If it be just to remove poor persons from Liverpool by the operation of the law, does it not appear to you to be equally just that the law should transport them to some place upon which they have a more equitable claim for relief than they have upon Liverpool?—I suppose so, certainly.

5226. Would you think it just, if the law were to require that all Irish poor should be removed from Liverpool, and sent to Leeds, in Yorkshire?—No.

5227. Can you suggest any reason which makes it more just that they should be removed to Dublin, to which it is notorious that a very small portion of them belong?—I would not have them removed to Dublin; I would have them removed where they certainly have some claim to relief.

5228. Are you aware that at present the great majority of those removed do go to Dublin?—I am not aware of it; that is a point in which I think the law requires improvement; I think that something should be done to protect the Irish parishes and Irish towns, just in the same way that I am pleading for the protection of the town of Liverpool. It may be a great hardship that we are to get rid of paupers who come from Cork by sending them over to Dublin; there is no justice in that at all, but then I think the Legislature should remedy that injustice.

5229. Therefore you are clearly of opinion that the present law is unjust?—If that is the case, I do not want to inflict upon Dublin an evil from which I wish to free Liverpool; I do not wish to do injustice to anybody.

5230. Being interested in this subject, and having considered the provisions of this law, can you suggest any mode in which the injustice now existing, of removing from Liverpool to Dublin persons who have had no previous connexion with it can be obviated?—I cannot say that I am clever enough for that; I did say something upon that point, I believe. I would appoint Government officers at the different ports to carry out and enforce restrictions, and I would make them responsible for the proper treatment of the persons removed, and they should take care that they were carried to that place to which they belonged. If such a thing is not in practice in Ireland, I do not know exactly what the law is there, but there ought to be some place to which the people of Liverpool should be called upon to remove them.

5231. Are you aware that towns in Ireland have no power of removal, and that a destitute person is legally entitled to relief in the place where he becomes destitute?—I cannot say that I am; I am not very well acquainted with the working of the law in Ireland; my knowledge is only very limited; my profession does not lead me to the acquisition of much knowledge on the subject; my knowledge is simply practical, what I have gained from 20 years' experience in the parish of Liverpool.

5232. Then you do not see any practical means by which at present the law of removal can be carried out with justice, so far as Ireland is concerned?—I do

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I do not at this present moment; but, possibly, by thinking, I might discover some means, which perhaps would be found inoperative; I leave that to the Legislature.

5233. Mr. *Liddell.*] You have been asked whether you could suggest any mode which would have a tendency to simplify and amend the present system of removals; I rather believe that you have been in communication with an authority in Liverpool, whom it may not be necessary to bring before the Committee, namely, Mr. Shuttleworth, the town clerk?—Yes; I had some conversation with him upon the subject, but that, I think, was more with respect to union rating than anything else.

5234. And to the power of removal in England?—Yes; and he has furnished me with a paper, which I only received this morning.

5235. The question of the power of removal in England not coming properly within the inquiries of this Committee, I will ask you whether, upon looking over his suggestions, something of a similar nature might not perhaps be advantageously adopted with regard to Ireland; at all events, I will call upon you, with that view, to put in the suggestions which the town clerk has embodied?—The town clerk gives some suggestions with respect to that matter.

5236. *Chairman.*] With respect to Irish removals?—With respect to removals generally; his proposal is that there should be no removals to or from parishes in England.

5237. Mr. *Liddell.*] I should propose that you should view these matters with regard to Ireland as far as you can *mutatis mutandis*, and state whether you think them applicable to an improved relation between the authorities in England and Ireland?—Perhaps I may be permitted to read this, and to give my opinion upon it, because the Honourable Member for Carlow asked me whether I could suggest anything, and I may possibly, upon reading this, be able to suggest something; at present, I must confess, I am not in a condition to do so. The Town Clerk's proposal is, "1. That there shall be no removals to or from parishes in England. 2. That if a person requires it, he shall be relieved by the parish in which he then is, an account being kept of the cost incurred, such cost to be reimbursed to the relieving parish periodically. 3. In order to this, that the relieving parish shall inquire as to the settlement of the pauper, and if it appear he belongs to any other parish in England, shall send to such parish the evidence taken. 4. If the settlement be admitted by such parish, the circumstances to be reported by the relieving parish, with a certificate of the admission of settlement, to the Poor Law Board, who shall then, by order, declare the pauper settled accordingly; such order to be final. 5. If the settlement be not admitted or disputed, the evidence on each side to be reported to the Poor Law Board, who may direct additional evidence or examinations to be taken by their Assistant Commissioners in their respective districts, and the additional facts to be reported to the Poor Law Board, who shall then make an order as to the settlement; such order to be final. 6. If the Poor Law Board find an intricate question of law involved, give them the same power of obtaining the written opinion of the Judges, as is or was conferred upon the Commissioners of Assessed Taxes. The accounts between each parish for the maintenance, &c. of paupers would be a debtor and creditor account. A. has 20 paupers belonging to B., and B. has 10 belonging to A. The difference would have to be paid by B., and these accounts could be settled, periodically, say monthly, on the principle of a clearing-house. There is no difficulty in keeping such accounts in county gaols, for the maintenance of prisoners chargeable to boroughs, and *vice versâ*. I am satisfied that by simplifying the mode of proving and confirming settlements an enormous amount, now expended in litigation, would be saved to the poor rates. I make these suggestions, however, subject to the correction of those who have practical experience in working the poor law, in which I have had little at any time, and none for several years past." It has been suggested that possibly, to prevent removals, some fund might be appropriated to maintain the paupers in the parishes where they were located, independent of the parish funds. I have turned my thoughts to that, to a certain extent, and this seems open to objection of the same kind. I think it would be extremely difficult to carry out anything of that sort. Such a fund, of course, must have a separate machinery to work it. You would not allow us, for instance, to put our hands into any public purse to spend the money upon Irish paupers, or upon our own paupers; therefore a separate machinery would be required for such an operation as that; and that would be very expensive, and I should

should think would be found inoperative. I think there would be great difficulties in carrying out any such system as this, with respect to Irish paupers. It would prevent the removals, but I do not see that it could be well carried out. Of course if there was a fund to pay it we should have less objection, although I must confess that my objection to taking away the power of removal is not so much financial as on moral grounds.

5238. We understand you to say that the law touching the industrial residence of these Irish immigrants to Liverpool is, in your opinion, sufficiently stringent in practice at present?—I think so.

5239. But that it will not, with safety to the interests of the town of Liverpool, admit of any relaxation upon that main and cardinal point?—I should not wish to see that period diminished, I must confess. As I said before, I should be very sorry to do any injustice to the Irish, particularly to the Irish labourer; but I should be very apprehensive of the consequences of diminishing that period of five years' residence.

5240. You would rather wish to see that period of five years' industrial residence diminished in duration than the power of removal taken away from the authorities at Liverpool?—I think it would be very dangerous; I wish that power to be carried out as humanely and as gently as possible, but I should wish it to exist.

5241. Mr. *Dunlop.*] As to the period of residence, you would have a great objection to the period being diminished?—Yes.

5242. Would you have an equal objection to making a five years' residence sometimes in the nature of a settlement, so that if the pauper passed into another parish he should not thereby instantly become removable to Ireland?—I have not thought upon that point, and I can hardly hazard an opinion.

5243. Mr. *Liddell.*] Some questions were put to you touching the cost of passage from Cork to Liverpool?—Yes.

5244. Twelve shillings, it is said to be now; but Liverpool is not the main vent for emigrants that are shipped at Cork, is it; is not there a more frequent traffic between Cork and Bristol, and Cork and Cardiff?—I should think so.

5245. And of course the cost of the fares will diminish in proportion to the distance?—Yes; I do not suppose that a great many people would come to us from Cork, but I do not know.

5246. From which ports in Ireland does the main bulk of Irish emigrants and poor come over to Liverpool?—I should think from Dublin.

5247. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Have you formed any estimate of the proportion of the poorer classes now in Liverpool, of Irish birth?—The only estimate which I can form is from these statistics of Irish settlers in four districts.

5248. Are those statistics accompanied with a return of the number of English?—No.

5249. Can you form any estimate of the proportion of the whole population which is borne by the Irish?—Mr. Rushton, in his time, stated it as one-fourth; my impression is that it would be more than that.

5250. That being the case, you have stated that the whole cost of relief for 10 years to Irish poor was about 124,000 *l.*?—Yes.

5251. Has your attention been called to the fact, that the total expenditure for relief during that period was about 476,000 *l.*?—It has not.

5252. That being the case, the proportion of relief to the Irish poor is not materially greater than the proportion which they bear to the general population?—Very possibly.

5253. Therefore the pauperism accompanying the Irish labouring population is only that share of pauperism which generally arises amongst the poorest classes, whatever their origin may be?—Yes; but then what will it be if the power of removal is taken away?

5254. It is not, therefore, the amount of relief which is now given, or has been given, that creates the main objection in your mind to a change of the law, but your apprehension of a different state of things if the law were changed?—My attention has not been directed to that. I have not directed it to the proportions.

5255. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Does that total sum of 476,000 *l.* include the expense of the erection of the poor-houses which you talked of?—No.

5256. *Chairman.*] Merely relief?—Merely relief. I reckon that our paupers stand at a rent of about 10,000 *l.* a year, and our staff is enormously expensive, although

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although it has been said that it was at a moderate rate. I have here the accounts.

5257. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are you able to state the amount of the rates in Liverpool for the last few years?—Yes, I have here a table showing the poor's rates assessed and collected in the last year.

5258. Can you mention the poundage rate for the last 10 years?—This year the rate is 2 *s.* 6 *d.*; last year it was 2 *s.* 1 *d.*; but then it was far too little.

5259. Does that cover some portion of the cost of erecting the new workhouses?—Yes.

5260. Are you aware that in Ireland a strict enforcement of the Vagrant Act and the administration of relief to the able-bodied in workhouses have been found to prevent any very great influx of poor into the towns, and to prevent a very great migration of the poor from the poorer places to distant places supposed to be more wealthy and better able to support them?—I am not aware of that.

5261. If that be the case in Ireland, is it not reasonable to suppose that a similar mode of administration would protect them in England?—If that is the case in Ireland no doubt a similar mode might have, to a certain extent, a similar effect.

5262. Mr. *Liddell.*] A question has been put to you touching the proportions of the expense of the maintenance of the poor in Liverpool, from which it would appear that the charge of the Irish only bore its due proportion; but two circumstances were very pointedly put as to which I will ask you, in order that they may appear pointedly upon the evidence. In the petition which was sent up and committed to my charge, from the select vestry of Liverpool, what was the sum stated as having been incurred by the town of Liverpool for the maintenance of the distressed Irish in the year 1847?—The whole cost was stated at 70,000 *l.*, but that was not entirely for Irish.

5263. Was that the whole cost of the maintenance of the poor in that year?—The whole additional cost. We had to raise two additional rates of 1 *s.* in the pound, which produced, at that time, about 72,000 *l.* I think a penny in the pound produced 3,000 *l.*; therefore 1 *s.* produced 36,000 *l.*; and 2 *s.* produced 72,000 *l.*

5264. What were the sums stated in that petition as likely to be incurred as a permanent charge by the town of Liverpool, since the alteration of the law giving five years' industrial residence as a right of claim?—The authorities stated that they believe the increase from that Five Years' Residence Act is 16,000 *l.* a year.

5265. Mr. *J. Ball.*] I think you mentioned that the dietary in Belfast was the only one in Ireland which appeared to you to be satisfactory?—The only one that appeared to me to have animal food; I cannot pretend to speak positively, but from what I collected Belfast was the only one where animal food was introduced as an ingredient.

5266. If such a cause as that were likely to create an influx of Irish paupers, do you know why it is that the Irish paupers do not go to the town of Belfast?—I do not know that I exactly said that.

5267. I believe you attributed one cause of the influx into Liverpool to the dietary?—I do not know that I did; perhaps that might have escaped my lips, but I did not mean to press upon it. I quoted those dietaries to show the difficulty, if not the impossibility, of having any very large number of Irish and English in the workhouse, because we should be forced to treat them so differently.

5268. At the same time, the guardians of Belfast give that dietary without experiencing any injurious result from an increase in the number of persons?—Very possibly; but then they are almost all Irish.

5269. Is it possible that a strict administration of the law as it exists in Ireland, which prohibits persons coming from one place to another for the purpose of relief, is sufficient without the power of removal?—I think that a strict administration of the law in Liverpool, would have a tendency to produce the application of the workhouse test; but then, as I said before, I do not see how the workhouse test is to be applied to old men and women and children; I have never been able to understand it.

Lunæ, 3° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Colonel Blair.	Sir John Pakington.
Sir John Young.	

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *John Evans*, called in; and Examined.

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5270. *Chairman.*] WHAT office do you hold in connexion with the Select Vestry of Liverpool?—Assistant Overseer.

5271. How long have you filled that office?—Eighteen years.

5272. What are your duties with regard to the removal of Irish paupers?—After having become chargeable in the workhouse or otherwise, through the relieving officers, the party supposed to be liable to removal is sent down to me to be examined. If, upon examination, I find that the pauper is liable to be removed, I take him before the justices and obtain a removal order.

5273. Do you take him before two justices sitting in open court?—In Liverpool it is rather different, perhaps, from any other place.

5274. Will you be so good as to explain the peculiarity?—Two justices attend at the parish office for the purpose of taking the examinations of such pauper as many days in the week as are considered necessary, on the application of the select vestry.

5275. You have a stipendiary magistrate at Liverpool, I believe?—We have, but he does not attend.

5276. Does he take no part in this particular business?—Not any. The plan upon which we are now acting, I may explain, was originated in 1847, when it was a very serious affair with us, and the removal orders were exceedingly numerous; it became a great inconvenience to the police court as well as to the parochial authorities.

5277. It was in that year, I believe, that the Act was passed to amend the former law by rendering it unnecessary to take out a summons?—It was. At that time extensive premises were taken near to the docks, and the magistrates were requested by the select vestry to give their attendance at those premises daily, which they did for some nine months; they were then asked whether, if other premises were taken nearer to the Exchange, not so near to the docks, they would continue their attendance; they consented to do so, and they have continued there ever since.

5278. What is the room in which these investigations by the magistrates are carried on; is it a room open to the ratepayers?—It is not exactly open to the ratepayers; nobody attends there but the justices and their clerk, and the parish officers; it is an open room like this.

5279. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Are the ratepayers invited to attend; would they be debarred from attending if they made their appearance?—They would not be debarred; anybody could attend there; the front door is open, and the place is open while the business is going on.

5280. *Chairman.*] So that it is an open proceeding?—It is an open proceeding altogether.

5281. You bring each individual case before the magistrates?—Yes.

5282. Is the pauper examined again in the presence of the magistrates; just describe what passes in the presence of the magistrates?—The magistrates' clerk has already taken the deposition of the pauper; the pauper, with the deposition

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and the clerk appear at the open window, and the deposition is then read over to the pauper in the presence of the justices, and he is sworn to it.

5283. Is it in each case distinctly read to him?— In each case.

5284. So as to give him an opportunity of understanding distinctly what it is? —Yes, he perfectly understands it; in fact I myself, previously to that part of the proceedings, have explained it fully to him.

5285. Do you remove in all cases of chargeability where there has not been irremovability gained?—We do not remove in all cases.

5286. What is the principle by which you go in discriminating among cases? —Suppose a man had been residing for less than five years, and he became chargeable temporarily, he would be relieved as casual poor; if that relief was to be continued for some time, and he did not succeed in getting employment, it probably would cease; the relieving officer would say, "You must endeavour to get employment now, you have had this relief long enough, and you must see what you can do;" it might be probably stopped for a time, but invariably, in such cases, relief would be granted in the first instance to parties who had been there some time.

5287. Do the magistrates exercise a discretion as to the cases in which they make orders; you are aware that the words of the act are, that the magistrates, "if they think fit," may make an order?—The magistrates in Liverpool have often exercised that discretion.

5288. I understand that that which you just now mentioned is the principle upon which you go in bringing cases before them?—It is.

5289. Is there any principle of distinction which they have laid down in deciding upon the various cases?—No, there is no particular principle laid down by them.

5290. They judge by the circumstances of each particular case?—They do.

5291. And you say you have known repeated instances in which they have declined to make orders?—Yes, I will give you an instance, and this is one of several. A young woman has been in the poorhouse, having obtained an order from the relieving officer; say a young woman pregnant of a bastard child, for those are the cases; such a young woman, after being in the workhouse a short time, has been sent down to me, as overseer, to be examined as to her place of settlement; I have taken such case before the justices and explained it to them; they have then asked the necessary questions of the young woman, and they have declined to send such young woman over to Ireland; they have recommended that she should be taken to the workhouse and kept there till she was confined, which recommendation has always been attended to.

5292. Supposing an order of removal to have been made, will you describe what is the course of proceeding?—Supposing an order made, the party is taken down to the vessel.

5293. When?—Sometimes in the course of half an hour after the order is made; immediately afterwards the party is put on board the vessel, the officer taking a duplicate of the order to the captain.

5294. Who takes that to the vessel?—The removing officer takes a duplicate of the removal order to the captain. He delivers the party up to the captain, and considers that he has done all that is necessary.

5295. Does he deliver a duplicate of the order to the captain?—Those are always his instructions, and he gets one from me.

5296. Have you any printed instructions by which your officers are guided?— Yes.

Vide Appendix.

5297. Have you a copy of them here?—Yes. (*The Witness delivered in the same.*)

5298. Is William Wood, who is mentioned in this document, the removing officer?—Yes.

5299. That is the form of instructions under which your officers act?—It is.

5300. And a copy of them, *mutatis mutandis*, is given in each case, I suppose? —The officer gets a copy of them from me in each case, with instructions to send the man, if born in Cork or the neighbourhood, to Cork; that is, in all cases I send them to the port nearest the place where they were born, or have resided.

5301. That the Act of Parliament says?—According to the Act of Parliament, a man, if born in Londonderry, I send to Londonderry. If born in the neighbourhood

bourhood of Sligo, though not bound by the Act at all to send him to the neighbourhood of Sligo, I invariably send him to Sligo, supposing he wishes to go there.

5302. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Is that decided by you or by the magistrates?—That is done by myself.

5303. It is no part of the formal order of the magistrates?—No.

5304. *Chairman.*] I observe on the back of the document regulations which were sanctioned by Sir James Graham in 1846, and under which you appear still to be acting?—Yes.

5305. They have not been varied since that time?—They have not; speaking of those regulations, I will just state why I have not been enabled to carry them out strictly. In 1849, as you were informed by Mr. Campbell on Thursday, application was made by the select vestry of Liverpool, for some person to be sent down to Liverpool, to examine as to the condition in which these deck passengers were brought from Ireland. Captain Denham was sent down and called upon me, and asked me if I would furnish him with some particulars as far as I knew, and this is a copy of the report which I gave him at that time. "Fares to each of the Irish ports for deck passengers, in pauper circumstances: Cork, 10*s.*; Waterford, 7*s.* 6*d.*; Wexford, 7*s.* 6*d.*; Port Rush, 4*s.*; Londonderry, 5*s.*; Sligo, 5*s.*; Belfast, 4*s.*; Dublin, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Drogheda, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Dundalk, 2*s.* 6*d.*; Newry, 2*s.* 6*d.* Number of actual paupers removed by pass to Ireland, from 1st February to 30th April 1849, 2,224." On the 3d April 1846, the Liverpool justices made regulations for the removal of paupers to Ireland, Scotland, &c. (see back of form of removal order); one part of those regulations states, "That all such persons shall be conveyed on the decks of the vessels or in the steerage, according to the season of the year, or on the deck part of the way, and in the steerage the remainder, as the justices who order their removal may direct." It has been impossible to carry this part of the regulations into effect, in consequence of there being no steerage in the Dublin and some other boats; and although the justices have often ordered in winter time that the paupers should be sent under cover, they were frequently obliged to be sent on deck (the only cover being the gangway, which does not shelter them from the sea and wind in rough weather), there being no proper place below. In the Dublin boats we are allowed to make use of the stables when there are no horses; but if horses are on board, they always occupy the stables. A melancholy instance of the want of proper accommodation under cover happened on board the "Duchess of Kent" on her passage from Liverpool to Dublin on the night 1st September 1847, when a boy, Michael Duignan, a pauper under pass from Rochdale, and a man unknown, died from exposure to wet and cold on the deck of the vessel. At the inquest held in Dublin, Captain Jones said he had from 500 to 530 deck passengers on board, among whom were a great number of paupers from different parish authorities. Respecting the screw-boats, which convey deck passengers from Dublin to Liverpool at 1*s.* each, I have to state, that in December last I called on Mr. Rounthwaite, the agent for the City of Dublin Company, and asked him if he would take our paupers back to Dublin at 1*s.* each, as some of their boats were bringing poor persons over at that rate of fare; he said the fare by the paddle-boats was 3*s.*, and by the screws 1*s.*; that their company would take paupers back to Dublin by the screw-boats at 1*s.* each if the churchwardens and overseers would take the responsibility of sending them by such boats, but that neither he nor any of their captains would sign the magistrate's order with an undertaking to land them in Dublin. At the same time Mr. Rounthwaite said their company would much rather not bring passengers by their screw-boats, but they did it in self-defence, because an opposition company had commenced it. In February last, two men applied to me to be sent to Dublin; I asked what they paid for coming over; they said, 4*s.* each; I asked how that could be, as the proper fare was only 3*s.*; they then stated that they came over in one of the screw-boats, and were two nights and a day on the passage; that they paid 1*s.* each for fare, 1*s.* each for being allowed to go into the engine-room the first night, and 6*d.* each for every three hours they were in the engine-room the second night. The men who made this statement were decent-looking mechanics. Many persons have stated to me that they had paid 1*s.* for being allowed to go into the engine-room of the screw-boats on the passage from Dublin in bad weather. I am in the habit of inquiring from poor persons

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who apply to be sent to Ireland, what boat they came over in, and am frequently answered: "The screw-boat, but I hope you will not send us back in her, for we were nearly lost coming over, and were two days on the passage." One woman in particular, who applied a few weeks since, when asked if she would like to go back in the screw-boat, begged I would not send her in that boat, and said she and her child were nearly starved to death coming over; every article of clothing they had on being completely wet through, and in that state they were exposed on deck the whole night. So earnestly did this woman request that she might not be sent back in the screw-boat, that she raised her arms and would have fallen on her knees, if the officer in attendance had not prevented her.

5306. Mr. *Liddell.*] Who is Captain Denham?—He was sent down by Government at the time.

5307. In what capacity?—To inspect the vessels and see for himself, and report to the Government on that particular subject.

5308. *Chairman.*] Will you read that portion of your regulations to which this report of yours refers?—"That all such persons shall be conveyed on the decks of the vessels, or in the steerage, according to the season of the year, or on deck part of the way and in the steerage the remainder, as the justices who order their removal may direct."

5309. Do you wish to make any further statement with regard to the change of practice in that respect?—I may state that the same system continues, and we are as badly off as we have been all along, with the exception that on board certain boats there is accommodation (and I will give the names of the boats): to Dublin we are obliged to send on deck as heretofore; to Drogheda, when there is no cargo, they are allowed to go below, but when there is they cannot go below; to Dundalk, in one boat there is a steerage, in one boat there is not; to Cork it is the worst; there is no steerage at all; to Wexford there is none; to Belfast there is a good steerage, excepting in one boat; to Waterford there is a steerage; to Sligo there is a steerage; to Limerick, for about 20 persons only; to Londonderry and Glasgow there is good steerage.

5310. Are these boats the same boats, or boats of the same description, as those in which these poor people come over to Liverpool?—The very same.

5311. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Are the deck passengers entitled to use the steerage in those boats which have any steerage?—Yes; at least those which we send over are.

5312. *Chairman.*] Has your attention been called to the case of a person of the name of Bridget Farrell, who was mentioned before this Committee in question 1835; Mr. Cusack, the chairman of the North Dublin Union, states, "Here is another case of a woman being sent over, her husband being left behind; 'Bridget Farrell, 30 years of age, and two children, admitted 6th May 1854, stated that she lived in Liverpool for 12 years; that one of her children took sick; that she made application for medical relief; that herself and two children were taken into the workhouse, and that on the following morning they were sent to Dublin against her will, leaving her husband and two more children at their residence in Liverpool"?—That case never happened in the Liverpool workhouse.

5313. I believe a communication was made to you from the Committee respecting that case?—Yes; the governor and I examined our books carefully, and no such case occurred.

5314. Your attention, however, has been directed to that particularly?—Particularly.

5315. You observe, it is stated that she was sent from Liverpool; "that herself and two children were taken into the workhouse, and that on the following morning they were sent to Dublin against her will, leaving her husband and two more children at their residence in Liverpool?"—My answer is, that we never had such a case; that it must have been from the West Derby workhouse, if at all, which is joining Liverpool, not from the workhouse of Liverpool.

5316. Mr. *Maguire.*] Might a pauper easily confound the West Derby workhouse with your workhouse?—Very readily, and it has very often been done.

5317. *Chairman.*] Have you in any case whatever allowed that separation of husband and wife, such as is described in that case of Bridget Farrell?—Never; but I may state that I was very sorry a few weeks ago that I could not do such a thing,

thing, for there was a poor woman from Newry whose husband had fallen from the roof of a house in Liverpool, and was taken into the infirmary; and this poor woman had several children, and was most desirous of going home to her own friends, while he remained in the infirmary; of course I had no power to send her, though it was her wish to go; but supposing it had not been her wish to go, we should not have attempted such a thing under any circumstances.

5318. Do you find when there is a lowering of the fares by these steamboats that you receive a greater number of poor people from Ireland?—Invariably.

5319. What class of people are they who come over in these vessels; some labourers, I suppose?—Yes.

5320. Some emigrants?—The majority are labourers and emigrants.

5321. Is there any other class?—There are several classes who have come over; persons in search of employment and emigrants are the most numerous, decidedly; women in search of husbands form a large number; persons in search of relations supposed to be able to assist them if they find them in this country; widows with children; emigrants who come over to Liverpool for the purpose of emigration, but who are in consequence of something or other disappointed and obliged to go home again; emigrants returned from America disabled or sick, returned from New York by the authorities; there are many of that class who wish to go to Cork, women with children, deserted by their husbands in England. I have made a memorandum of the number from the 27th of May to the 27th of June, and I find that I sent of that class of people, persons deserted by their husbands either in Ireland or in England, 42 women with 51 children in one month. There are beggars and petty thieves, as I might call them, from the court, whom we get occasionally from the stipendiary magistrate, who prefers that they should be sent home to sending them to prison. It is usual for the stipendiary magistrate in Liverpool, where it is a very petty case, or for begging, and where the party has not resided in Liverpool for five years, to offer him a pass home, and if he prefers it he is sent to Ireland.

5322. I suppose that the party is destitute at the time when he is set at liberty, and you relieve him, and upon that relief a proceeding is adopted under this Act of Parliament?—It is.

5323. Does that happen frequently?—At particular times only, for our watch committee sometimes take very little notice of the beggars in the streets, and then if they become numerous, an order is given to the police officers to take up all beggars; that will continue probably for a few weeks, and it will cease again, and during those few weeks we often get a number of them.

5324. Is there any class of persons coming over, who become chargeable immediately upon their arrival in Liverpool?—Not at present. If you will allow me, I have a few cases which I should like to read to the Committee, of parties coming over and becoming chargeable after a very short time.

5325. State any cases that you wish to state?—Edward Cashen, wife and four children; ages 16, 14, 11 and 9, was passed on the 24th of May.

5326. In this year?—Yes; he applied for a pass on the 4th of May, having been in the Night Asylum for two nights, and he had been in Liverpool only two days; he had been six weeks from the county of Longford, and could not get any work in this country. One of his children, when he appeared before me, having been sent to me to be examined in the usual way, appeared to be unwell; I sent the whole of them to the workhouse, where they remained for three weeks; at the expiration of three weeks they were sent down to me, and sent home to Ireland. I asked that man if he would like to remain in our workhouse, and he said he was quite willing to remain there, but he preferred going home. I mention that as a case in which if the law were altered, and we had no power to remove such a man, it would be a hardship upon himself, as well as a hardship upon the ratepayers of Liverpool.

5327. Mr. *Maguire.*] Under what head do you represent Cashen?—A man in search of employment.

5328. And he failed in finding employment?—Yes, and became chargeable in consequence.

5329. Do you believe him really to be a person who came over for the purpose of getting employment?—I do, and no other.

5330. *Chairman.*] What is your next case?—John Short, wife and five children, aged 17, 15, 12, 10 and 7, were passed to Belfast on the 10th of June; he landed in Fleetwood two months previously, the fare from Belfast to Fleet-

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wood being 2*s.* He was in Liverpool four weeks, and in the Night Asylum for two nights. The fare back from Liverpool to Ireland is 4*s.*, just double what he paid; that is a similar case to the other; he came in search of employment; he did not succeed, and wished to go home again.

5331. For what purpose do you mention that case?—In order to show that it would have been a hardship upon that man if he could not have been sent home to his own country, as well as a hardship upon Liverpool.

5332. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are you of opinion that if that man were relieved for some time he would not find employment in Liverpool suited to his skill?—He could not obtain it in Liverpool; he stated to me that he had been four weeks in the country and could not obtain a day's work anywhere; therefore having failed, he wished to go home again.

5333. *Chairman.*] Will you proceed to the next case?—Julia Leonard and three children, 16, 14, and 10, a widow, sailed from Dublin, having walked from Cork to get over, because the fare was lower at Dublin; she came to look for her brother. She was over seven months and could not find him; she was in Liverpool one week; she had been begging for her living; she was sent back to Cork on the 6th of May this year at her own request. I mention that to show that where the fare is very low, the parties will even walk as far as from Cork to Dublin to get over to this country.

5334. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know the distance from Cork to Dublin?—I do not.

5335. Should you think 164 miles a very great distance?—I should.

5336. And do you believe that a great many persons walk that distance in order to avail themselves of the cheaper passage from Dublin to Liverpool?—I do not know that a great many do, but I find instances.

5337. Colonel *Blair.*] Did the woman state that she had walked that distance in order to come over from Dublin to Liverpool?—She did.

5338. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you think it likely that many persons similarly circumstanced to her would have walked 164 miles for the benefit of the passage?—Very likely; in fact, such a person as that would not be able to get over from Cork at all, the fare being 10*s.*

5339. *Chairman.*] What is the next case?—Winifred Kelly, with six children, aged 12, 9, 7, 5, 3, and three months; was passed to Ireland on the 5th of May; her husband had died in Ireland. She came to England three months ago to try to get some of her children into the factory; went to Accrington; had some friends there who assisted her for a short time, and then sent her back to Liverpool. This woman had sold all her furniture, bed, &c., to pay her fare over to England, and landed in Liverpool with only 3*d.*; she was in Liverpool three days. Cases similar to these are continually happening in Liverpool. It was her wish to go back; she came from Accrington for the very purpose of getting home. I will just mention one other case, a Scotch case; Euphemia Christie, with seven children, 11, 9, 7½, 6, 4½, 3, 1½, was passed to Glasgow on the 24th of June; her husband deserted her in Bolton, where they had resided for two years and a half; she believed her husband was gone to Glasgow; she was in Liverpool five days; in the Night Asylum the first night, and was chargeable until she was passed. I think that will give you an idea of the sort of people we have to remove from Liverpool.

5340. Have you any reason to believe that poor persons get over to England now and then without paying any fare at all?—Yes, I have.

5341. What do you know upon that subject?—I think there is very little of it at present; but in 1847, 1848, and 1849 unquestionably great numbers came over to Liverpool from different ports in Ireland, especially from Dublin, and on questioning those poor persons, I was told over and over again, by some, that they came over free; by others, that they did not know who paid their fare, and by very many, that some strange gentleman on the quay in Dublin gave them their tickets to come over.

5342. Mr. *Liddell.*] That is, tickets of passage?—Their tickets for their passages; these were in 1847, 1848, and 1849. I have not had anything of that sort since to any extent.

5343. *Chairman.*] Has it happened at all since?—There have been cases since. I believe the governor has a case which he can mention.

5344. It has been suggested here that the present power of removal of Irish paupers from England might be taken away; what is your opinion of that, as a person

person conversant with the administration of the Poor-law for 18 years?—I think it would be a very dangerous thing, as far as Liverpool is concerned.

5345. Will you state your reasons for forming that opinion?—My reasons are, that from what I saw in 1847, 1848, and 1849, if we had no such power, Liverpool would perhaps be not in so bad a state as then; but instead of having one third of the paupers in the workhouse belonging to Ireland, which we now have, we should have a great majority Irish, I am quite satisfied, and it would be necessary to have another workhouse. From what I saw on those occasions, and from what I am seeing daily of the number of persons who are in destitute circumstances in Liverpool, and who could not get over to Ireland at all, if we had no power to remove them, but must become chargeable, to take away the power of removal would be most dangerous.

5346. Do you conceive that by adopting a stricter system of Poor-law administration at Liverpool you could furnish yourselves with a sufficient test of destitution on the part of the Irish without retaining this power of removal?—I am quite satisfied that we could not; in fact, our test at present is quite severe enough for any one, English or Irish.

5347. In the workhouse you mean?—In the workhouse. There are numerous cases where these poor Irishmen who have been in search of employment, taking that class only, will submit to our present test for a week or 10 days together, in order to get over to Ireland. They cannot help themselves; they are obliged to remain there, and there they remain until we dispose of them according to the law as it stands at present.

5348. I am not speaking of the class of those who wish themselves to get over to Ireland, but with regard to those who wish to remain in this country. Is your workhouse system sufficient, as a test of destitution, of itself, for persons of that description; I am not speaking of English persons?—I should say quite a sufficient test. However, the governor will be able to speak of that more fully than I can.

5349. He is here, I believe?—He is.

5350. Do you think that for people of that kind the workhouse test, without the power of removal, would be a sufficient protection? Speaking of that class of poor persons who become chargeable and wish to remain in this country, would your present workhouse system be sufficient to check them without the power of removal?—No, it would not; they would certainly remain in the workhouse.

5351. Have you reason to know, from any communication with them, whether they consider your system stricter or a more lax system than that to which they would be subjected in the workhouses of Ireland?—I can only state that some of the cases which I have mentioned to you, and many others sent to the workhouse by myself were quite willing to remain there, if they could remain.

5352. Have you stated to the Committee all the reasons which lead you to the conclusion that this power of removal could not be safely taken away?—I think so.

5353. Supposing it to be retained, in your opinion could the law as to the five years' residence be in any way amended; could you do with less than five years? you are aware that it requires now a five years' industrial residence, as it has been called, to give irremovability; what should you say to a proposition that three years' industrial residence should render a person irremovable, or two years?—As far as my opinion goes, I think five years seems to be a reasonable time; but I certainly should recommend that having been five years, a man should be entitled to a settlement there, and that he should not lose it by simply going across the street to another parish.

5354. That is one suggestion which you make?—That is a particular suggestion which I wish to make, because I have seen very many hard cases in which I have felt very much annoyed myself at having to perform my duty. In a particular case, where a man has resided in Toxteth Park, say for 15 years, he volunteers across the street to Liverpool, where he remains a short time, and in consequence of something or other becomes chargeable, he is then liable to be sent to Ireland. I think that is a great hardship upon him.

5355. Mr. *Maguire.*] Will you give the particulars of a case of that kind?—It was a case where a man had resided in Toxteth Park for a number of years, but left that district.

5356. How many years had he resided there?—I think 14 or 15; he came over across the street and resided in Liverpool for a short time. Circumstances

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so happened as to render it necessary for him to apply for parochial relief, and he obtained it, and he was sent down to me in the usual way to be sent to Ireland, I thought that a very hard case, and I remonstrated and recommended that he should be relieved for a short time.

5357. Did he get relief?—He did; but if I had performed my duty strictly I should have sent him over.

5358. How long did you give him relief?—I am not prepared to say.

5359. Did he apply again?—I am not aware. I lost sight of him then.

5360. Mr. *Liddell.*] In point of fact, under the present law, that man by leaving Toxteth Park, where he had resided 14 or 15 years, and going into the parish of Liverpool, forfeited all legal claim to irremovability?—Yes.

5361. *Chairman.*] I understand you to say that you think that a change of residence from a parish in which a man has lived five years, and who has thereby gained irremovability, should not operate to render him legally removable?—Yes; that is not the only instance, for I have had very many such cases.

5362. Then your suggestion with respect to that is, that a five years' residence, instead of rendering a man simply irremovable, should give him a settlement?—I think so.

5363. Have you any other suggestion to make?—On the other hand, I might state that there are parties who have resided in different parts of England more than the five years and have become chargeable in Liverpool after that, and who have expressed a particular wish to go over to Ireland. I have a statement here which may be of use to the Committee, to show how long parties have resided in England and in Liverpool before they have been sent over. This is a statement of persons passed to Ireland, Scotland, &c., from 26th September 1853 to 25th March last, that is, six months, and the time they resided in England and in Liverpool, which I will read if you will allow me. Resident in England above five years (but less in Liverpool), 96; five years and under, 35; four years and under, 83; three years and under, 118; two years and under, 175; one year and under, 315; six months and under, 379; three months and under, 565; one month and under, 707; that is in England. Then the same parties in Liverpool: under five years, 18; four years and under, 50; three years and under, 59; two years and under, 76; one year and under, 162; six months and under, 195; three months and under, 247; one month and under, 1,666.

5364. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the gross number?—Two thousand four hundred and seventy-three.

5365. In six months?—Yes.

5366. Were those persons sent over to Ireland?—Every one; of those, 940 were men, 819 women, 714 children. I have another list for four years, from 1850 to 1853, of the total number sent to Ireland, and the time they resided in Liverpool.

5367. Are the 2,473 which you gave removals of persons who desired to be sent over?—There is a little distinction there; when I say they are volunteers, they are not forced away; if they could have relief here, of course many of them would not go to Ireland.

5368. I thought the paper you handed in represented the number of persons who had been sent over at their own desire?—No; out of that number, of course there are many persons similar to Cashen: he went to the workhouse, and would have remained there if he could have remained, but he did not object to go to Ireland; therefore it was a voluntary case.

5369. Mr. *Liddell.*] In fact you draw the distinction between a voluntary and a compulsory removal?—Exactly so.

5370. These cases were not compulsory, and therefore they were voluntary?—Yes.

5371. Mr. *Maguire.*] According to the usual meaning of the words "desire" and "voluntary," how many of those really did desire of their own free will to go over to Ireland?—The great majority.

5372. The great majority of those 2,473?—Yes.

5373. Within six months?—Yes.

5374. Would you say that 1,473 or 1,500 were really anxious of their own free will to go over to Ireland?—Two-thirds, decidedly.

5375. And who would have availed themselves of any means by which they could carry out that desire?—Yes. I have another list of four years, and the time

time they have resided in Liverpool. This is to Ireland only. Total number passed in 1850, 7,627. Resident in Liverpool above two years, 241; two years and under, 226; one year and under, 7,160. In 1851, 7,808: above two years, 220; two years and under, 214; one year and under, 7,374. For 1852, 5,506: above two years, 228; two years and under, 183; one year and under, 5,095. 1853, 4,503: above two years, 200; two years and under, 110; one year and under, 4,193.

5376. Are these voluntary or compulsory removals?—They are similar to the six months list which I have explained to you.

5377. There are altogether between 25,000 and 26,000 in four years; would you make the same statement, with reference to those which you have made, as to the number passed within the six months, namely, that the great majority of them were anxious and willing of their own accord to go over to Ireland?—For the last three years decidedly.

5378. Then of 18,000, or thereabouts, within the last three years, the majority were decidedly anxious to go over to Ireland?—They were.

5379. And in the ordinary meaning of the word they were voluntary removals?—In the ordinary meaning of the word they wished to go and asked to go.

5380. *Chairman.*] What class of persons were they?—Men who had been in search of employment, and women very often with children, but who had been unsuccessful in this country.

5381. Will you proceed with any further suggestions which you have to make as to the amendment of the present law?—In the 9 & 10 Victoria, the Five Years' Residence Act, as we call it, it is stated, "That no woman residing in any parish with her husband at the time of his death shall be removed, nor shall any warrant be granted for the removal from such parish, for 12 calendar months next after his death, if she so long continue a widow." I have met with many hard cases under that clause.

5382. That, I believe, is the 9 & 10 Victoria, chapter 66, section 2; is it not?—It is.

5383. What observation do you make upon that clause?—It very often happens that a poor Irishman dies after being in England for a short time; the widow in such cases generally wishes to return to her friends, as soon as she can, in Ireland, and I have had many applications from widows whose husbands had died recently, one in particular, whose husband died in Liverpool seven days after he arrived, and the poor woman came to me; she had some children, and was most anxious to get back again to her friends. We had no power to send her until she had been in Liverpool 12 months. Now, I think, there should be a proviso that she might, with her consent, which consent should be stated on the face of the removal order, be sent back to Ireland.

5384. You are aware that this clause was introduced for the protection of widows?—I am.

5385. And I suppose, generally speaking, it would operate as a protection?—Generally speaking it would, but there are many exceptions.

5386. What would you suggest?—I would suggest that she should be sent to Ireland at her own request.

5387. That if she wished it, the justices should have the power of sending her notwithstanding this clause?—Yes, and it should be stated on the face of the removal order, and certified by the justices; I think that would render it quite safe. It would be a real benefit to the widow, because she might be worse off after being in Liverpool for 12 months than at first.

5388. Have you any other suggestion?—I would observe that the same proviso might be made in reference to persons who have resided in this country more than the five years; 96 persons were sent by me in six months, who had resided in this country more than five years, but who wished to go; those 96 persons of course, if the law were altered as I suggested, would be obliged to remain here.

5389. What alteration in the law do you suggest to meet that?—That they should not be removed after they had been resident in any place for five years, unless with their own consent.

5390. Do you mean that when a settlement had been gained by the five years' residence, a power should be given to the magistrates of removal from this country to Ireland if the party wished it, though a settlement had been gained?—Yes; I merely mention that for the sake of the pauper, and not to benefit the parish.

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5391. Have you any other suggestion?—No.

5392. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] There was a suggestion given by Sir John M'Neill, the head of the Poor-law management in Scotland, that the party should be removed not to the nearest seaport, but to the union workhouse of the district to which he states himself to have belonged in Ireland; what would be your opinion of such a change in the law as that;—It would be a most serious affair for us in Liverpool if such an alteration took place. I would suggest that there should be an office in the different seaports, to which office paupers sent over might apply on landing, and that something should be done if necessary there.

5393. Will you give your reasons for thinking that it would be so serious a matter for Liverpool in particular?—I will take Monday. On Monday it is usual to send persons to about four ports in Ireland, we should therefore require four officers. On Tuesday it is usual to send to at least six or seven, therefore on Tuesday we should require six or seven more; the boats very often on Tuesday are boats which go only once a week. Then day by day we should require other officers to go to the different ports, that could not be avoided; then again the majority, as I have stated, of the persons whom we send from Liverpool, are persons who would not wish to be sent to any workhouse in Ireland; they have no intention of becoming chargeable to any workhouse in Ireland, when they arrive there; their object is to get home to their friends, therefore it would be quite unnecessary for them to be sent to any workhouse.

5394. But would it not diminish very much the suffering of the casual poor in their passages over if they were brought before the union authorities, or some office such as you suggested, at the time of their landing, and if the state in which they landed was then brought under supervision?—I have long been of opinion that something of that sort should take place; there ought to be some place in these ports at which they could apply. I am quite of opinion that it is very hard indeed to land them on the quays in Dublin, or at any other place, without somebody to look after them.

5395. Do you think there would be any difficulty in requiring the masters of the vessels to bring back a receipt from those authorities that the parties had been delivered to them, and to produce it as an authorization for the payment of the passage-money?—I do not think that that would be necessary. There is no fear that the parties, if they had the address with them, could find the office, if there were such a place. For instance, the pauper might have in his possession a duplicate order, and take that duplicate order to the office, if there were such an office, and I would let him be disposed of there; that would be the best thing. Instead of giving it to the captain, let the pauper take it, or you could have them in three, giving the captain one and the pauper one.

5396. Is there any medical certificate or examination required at present?—It rests, I may say, altogether with myself. If I think the pauper is not in a sufficiently healthy state to be sent over, I invariably get a medical certificate. If I think that he is quite fit to go over, I send him without.

5397. Then it is a matter in your own discretion, and not required by law?—Entirely; and in answer to that I may state that during the 18 years that I have been in the office, I have sent to Ireland 120,000 paupers without a single accident, and almost without a complaint; certainly no complaint but which has been satisfactorily answered by us to the Poor-law Commissioners, as far as I am aware. But that I attribute more to good fortune than to anything else. What I complain of most is the accommodation on board the vessels, and I wish that something better could be done for them there; that is the principal thing. In winter time it is very severe.

5398. Who is it that decides whether a party shall be relieved or whether he shall be brought before the magistrates for removal?—The relieving officer.

5399. Do you know whether there is any record kept of the proceedings before the justices of the number of parties brought before them?—There is a record kept of the number of parties brought before them.

5400. And their decisions?—And their decisions; but there is scarcely an exception, unless it be such a case as I mentioned at the commencement. Parties brought before the magistrates are almost invariably passed; scarcely ever a question arises.

5401. Can you furnish the Committee with the number that have been passed to Ireland during each of the last five years?—Yes; from 26th of December 1848

1848 to 26th December 1849, to Ireland, there were 9,409; 543 to Scotland; 19 to the Isle of Man: from December 1849 to December 1850, 7,627 to Ireland; 463 to Scotland; 12 to the Isle of Man: in the next year, 7,808 to Ireland; 406 to Scotland; 13 to the Isle of Man, and five to Guernsey: in the next year, 5506 to Ireland; 483 to Scotland; nine to the Isle of Man, and six to Guernsey. Up to 1853, there were 4,503 to Ireland, 303 to Scotland, 13 to the Isle of Man, and two to Guernsey.

5402. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the number for 1846-7?—Yes.

5403. And 1847-8?—Yes; in 1846, there were 5,313 to Ireland; 330 to Scotland, and six to the Isle of Man: in 1847, there were 15,008 to Ireland; 443 to Scotland, and 21 to the Isle of Man.

5404. I think you said that you give to the removing officer a duplicate of the removal order?—Yes.

5405. Can you state, of your knowledge, that that removing officer gives that duplicate to the captain of the vessel?—I cannot.

5406. There is nothing imperative?—His order is to give one of them to each of the captains.

5407. Do you, at any time, inquire whether he does comply with his instructions?—I have inquired from him, for I asked him one day whether he knew what the captains did with those removal orders, and he said that one of them told him that he put them in the fire-place, and as soon as the fire-place was full he set fire to them.

5408. Do you state, of your own knowledge, that the removing officer does give a duplicate of the removal order to the captain?—I cannot say that, of my own knowledge; I give them to him, and that was the answer I received from him one day as to what was done with them.

5409. When the pauper is put on board the vessel, and his passage provided for him, your authorities think they have done all that they ought to do?—I am not prepared to say that they think they have done all that they ought to do. I think myself that something more ought to be done in Dublin and other ports.

5410. *Chairman.*] But under the law, as it stands?—Yes.

5411. Mr. *Maguire.*] That is all they do?—That is all the law requires; and that is all we do, except in particular cases.

5412. What are the particular cases?—Suppose a person has a long distance to go, from Waterford, for instance; however I had better state, as a rule, that we consider if we send them to the port nearest the place where they were born or have resided, we do all that the law requires; that is the rule.

5413. Are you in the habit of sending many people to Limerick?—Very few.

5414. In case you have to send a pauper to a distant part of the county of Cork, do you make any provision for that pauper in the way of sending him to the county of Cork?—We do not make any.

5415. Do you know anything of the extent of the county of Cork?—I do not.

5416. If a pauper happened to live 80 or 100 miles from the port which was nearest to that of his or her birth, would you make any provision for that case, in order that that pauper might be able to reach the place of his or her birth?—It is not usual to make provision.

5417. Where would you send a county of Limerick pauper, for instance?—To Cork, if it were his wish, but to Limerick if there were a boat; but, generally speaking, those from Limerick do not like going in the Limerick boat; they prefer going to Cork.

5418. Because it is a very long passage to Limerick?—A very long and a very troublesome one; I send less to Limerick than to any other port.

5419. To what port do you send a Kerry pauper?—Cork.

5420. To what port do you send a Clare pauper?—Cork, generally.

5421. To what port do you send a Tipperary pauper?—To Waterford.

5422. In all cases?—Unless they wish to go to another.

5423. I believe you are aware that Kerry is a considerable distance from Cork?—I am quite aware of it.

5424. That portions of it are as many as 120 or 130 miles from Cork?—Yes.

5425. In case you have to send over a Kerry pauper, do you make any provision in order to enable that person to go to his or her birthplace?—It is not usual to do so.

5426. Do you send a good number of Kerry paupers?—Very few.

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5427. Do you send a good number of Clare paupers?—Yes.

5428. Do you send a large number to the county of Cork?—Not a large number, but we send a good many.

5429. Do you send any to such a distance as Bantry or Skibbereen?—Very seldom.

5430. There is no officer sent with those persons, you say?—No.

5431. You spoke of the court; you said first it was not open to the rate-payers, and I think afterwards you said it was open to the rate-payers?—It is a public office, the parish office.

5432. But I think you said no one ever goes there?—Not for the purpose of seeing what goes on.

5433. There is no audience in fact?—No; it is open into a square; it is quite open; I mean to say, it is a mere convenience; it may be considered quite as open, as if we were in court, because if the pauper has any observations to make, he is there to make them; it is quite open for him to say anything he chooses.

5434. Do you think that the pauper has as fair play in that office as he would have before the stipendiary magistrate in the open court, to which the public would be admitted?—I may state, that it is more fair, because if he went into the court, it would be almost impossible for the magistrate to hear what he was saying; and here the justices hear every word; in the court he would be a great distance from the magistrate.

5435. Have you the returns of the paupers sent to Ireland for the last year, dividing it into months?—No.

5436. I suppose you send over at all seasons of the year?—We do.

5437. Do you think it your duty to send a pauper at any season of the year?—I have expressed my feelings on that point in the report which I furnished to Captain Denham, and I have very often felt exceedingly annoyed at being obliged to send persons over in winter time when the weather was severe.

5438. But in point of fact you do send them over in the winter time whenever they become chargeable, and it is right to remove them?—We never miss a week. I have many times gone thus far, when it has been a very severe night, I have kept the people till the next night to see whether it would moderate, but a week never passes without sending them.

5439. You never by any chance keep them more than a week?—No, I think not.

5440. And at all seasons of the year, however inclement, you do send them over?—We do.

5441. And I believe you state that in any instances there is no protection for the deck passengers?—In the boats which I have mentioned there is none.

5442. In some you say there is no steerage at all?—Not any.

5443. What is your opinion of the practice of sending them over where there is no protection, at a season of the year when protection is most required?—All I can say is, that I am very sorry to be obliged to do it, and have very often felt exceedingly uncomfortable about it.

5444. Colonel *Blair.*] I suppose the passengers that you send over, come over to you in the same state?—Precisely.

5445. There is no accommodation for them on the deck in coming over?—Not at all.

5446. Mr. *Liddell.*] I would suggest to you, as you have stated that from your own knowledge all these hardships occur in the transit of passengers, whether you may not think it desirable, for the interests of humanity, that some regulations should be established by law for the further protection of parties in that condition going across the Channel in steamers?—I stated my opinion that it ought to be so, and I hope I shall see it.

5447. *Chairman.*] What would you suggest?—It would be quite sufficient if we could obtain a steerage in the Irish boats, or some regulation by which a pauper should be sent over protected from the weather.

5448. Mr. *Liddell.*] Or deck houses?—Deck houses, or something of that sort; I mean that the proprietors of all vessels bringing over deck passengers should provide some sort of place under cover; it would be quite sufficient if it were under cover.

5449. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you not think that in order effectually to protect those people from the severity of the weather, there ought to be some further change, and that no Board of Guardians ought to be allowed to send paupers in the

the winter season; would not that be an effectual cure?—Yes, that would be an effectual cure for winter, but we could not submit to that at all.

5450. I think you say that at present persons coming over who become chargeable after a short time, are not so many as they were?—Not so many as they were in former years.

5451. In fact, the gradual diminution of pauperism, I think, may be very well tested by your own figures?—Yes.

5452. The removals have been reduced from 15,008 in the year 1847, to 4,503 in the year 1853?—Yes; but suppose we leave out that extraordinary year when there were 15,000, and take the others.

5453. Take 1849?—They would prove a gradual diminution.

5454. There is a steady and gradual diminution, as exemplified by these figures, inasmuch as they show a diminution from 1849, which is not a year of extraordinary transmission, from 9,509 to 4,503 in 1853?—Yes.

5455. You found a great many persons anxious to go back to Ireland?—Yes, the majority.

5456. The majority of the 4,503 were really anxious to go back to Ireland?—Yes.

5457. And you think that any law would be most unjust to the ratepayers as well as to the poor which would prevent the authorities from sending over those people on application, and on their becoming chargeable?—Yes, it would, in my opinion; no doubt about it.

5458. Supposing the power of compulsory removal were done away with, and the authorities had still the power of removing persons who really did wish to be removed, would not that effect that good for the paupers and that safety for the ratepayers which you contemplate?—It would for the poor, but not for the ratepayers.

5459. How not for the ratepayers?—If we had no power to say to a pauper applying for relief, "You must go home;" if a person was there for a week, or two or three weeks, having applied for relief, and we had no power to send him home, we must relieve him; we could not allow him to starve.

5460. I think you said that, even in a case where a party had established a bar to removal by a residence for a certain period, it would be right for the law to give the authorities the power of sending over that person to his native country, upon a wish so expressed by him?—Yes.

5461. You say there would be a great injury inflicted upon the pauper by not having the power of sending him over at his own wish?—Yes.

5462. Supposing that wish were carried out, would not it be a great protection for the ratepayer, and also a great benefit for the poor person himself?—Yes, it would certainly be a great benefit to the ratepayer, as well as to the pauper, if we had that power, but then we should be very much worse off if we had not the other; we could not dispense with the other.

5463. You say that if the power of compulsory removal were done away with it would be very dangerous?—It would.

5464. And you base that opinion upon what you saw happen in the years 1847 and 1848?—I do.

5565. Do you not know that there is almost a totally different state of things in Ireland now from what there was then; would not the figures which you have given to the Committee prove to demonstration that there is now a different state of things?—I have no doubt about it.

5466. Then why do you found your fear for the future upon your remembrance of what happened in years which bear no analogy to the present?—It is impossible for me to say what might happen.

5467. Are you afraid of a great pauper-rush from Ireland?—No, I do not say I am afraid of it.

5468. Then why do you say it would be dangerous?—Because it might happen as it did then; we did not expect it then. If there were no power to remove these parties over to Ireland, the governor of the workhouse, I think, will be able to tell you better than I can, why great numbers would or might come over to this country.

5469. I believe a great many rushed over from Ireland in those years 1847 and 1848, and even in 1849?—Yes.

5470. And in 1850, from having no employment in their own country?—Yes.

5471. And from the poverty and misery which was general there?—Yes; but

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very many came over in those years, not to look for employment at all; women with children, and persons not at all fit to work.

5472. Admitting that, a great many you say came over in those year to beg?—Yes.

5473. The number coming over to beg since those years has greatly diminished?—It has.

5474. Would you not send such persons back if they came now?—Yes.

5475. You have not sent back many of those persons last year, or the year before?—We have not.

5476. Then those parties do not come to you?—They do not, not in anything like the number in the years you have mentioned.

5477. And if they came to any part of England, they would be likely to come to Liverpool?—Yes, they would come to us first, certainly.

5478. So that all your apprehensions upon that point are scarcely justified by the facts, as they exist at the present moment?—They are justified, I think, by past experience.

5479. But not by present facts?—Perhaps not by present facts.

5480. Inasmuch as the want of employment was one of the great causes in Ireland of that rush from Ireland to England, are you not of opinion that the employment is so general in Ireland that that rush would not be likely to happen again?—The employment in England is very much better, generally speaking, than it is in Ireland; better wages are given in England than in Ireland; and where better wages are given parties will come over.

5481. Then if parties do come over to England merely for the purpose of earning their bread by their industry, you cannot say that that is an injury to England?—So long as they do not apply to the parish for relief, or wish to be sent back to Ireland, it is, of course, no injury.

5482. According to your statement, that class of persons who come merely for the purpose of begging, do not come now in any number?—Not as compared with former years.

5483. Can you institute any comparison with former years?—No, I cannot.

5484. Is there a general disposition amongst the poor Irish to go into the workhouse in Liverpool?—They very often wish to go into the workhouse, and when they do get in I find generally that that class which I have to deal with, some instances of which I have given to-day, do not wish to get out again.

5485. As a general rule, do you find that?—I am not exactly in a position to answer that question; that is more for the relieving officer; but, from conversation which I have had with them, I can tell you that they assure me that they could fill the house to overflowing in a week with Irish paupers at present receiving out-door relief; that if they stopped the out-door relief they would go into the workhouse.

5486. I think you have expressed your opinion that the workhouse test would be a very effectual check?—Not to keep people out of the workhouse.

5487. Would not the workhouse test be a sufficient protection against undue application?—No.

5488. I thought you said that the house was managed very strictly?—Yes.

5489. *Chairman.*] You are speaking of Irish paupers?—Yes.

5490. Mr. *Maguire.*] I think you said awhile ago that one man submitted to go into the workhouse for a short time, for ten days, in order to get over to Ireland?—Yes.

5491. Had he not a repugnance to go into that workhouse?—He did not express it.

5492. What do you mean by the phrase "submitted," if you do not apply it to a sacrifice of feeling?—That was not, in fact, the workhouse; it was the case of a man from Waterford who submitted to the most severe test we have, the test in the vagrancy wards of the workhouse, where we do not expect a man to remain many days; it was not in-doors in the workhouse.

5493. Would not the application of that test be very effectual in checking vagrancy, and improper applications for relief?—It has been very effectual; it has done a great deal of good, but it is not effectual in sending them away from Liverpool; they still continue there.

5494. You said that you thought it very hard that a man who merely crossed the street from one parish to the other should lose what we call his residential right?—I do think so.

5495. Would

5495. Would you go a little further than that; suppose a man had lived for 10 years in Manchester and only three years in Liverpool, do not you think it very hard that that man, on applying for relief in Liverpool at the end of three years, or of 13 years' residence in England, should be sent back to Ireland?—I think he ought not to be sent back.

5496. Would you then go so far as to say that a man who had been industrially employed for five years in England, and never during that time had applied for parochial relief, ought to have a right to relief in case it was afterwards necessary?—Do you mean simply five years in England, but not in any particular place?

5497. I mean in England?—I do not know as to that; those are particular cases, of which I have not met with any.

5498. You say cases of people going from one parish to the other are cases within the law of removal?—Yes, but you speak of a man not having resided five years in any one place.

5499. Supposing a man had resided five years in London, and thought it right to change his residence and go to Liverpool, and was four years in Liverpool without applying for relief, and that man afterwards became sick, or could no longer find employment, and applied to you for parochial relief, would you think it right that that man should be sent to Ireland?—I should not send him.

5500. There is a power of sending him at the present moment?—Yes, if not sick.

5501. Although you would not send him, other officers might send him?—Yes, if in good health.

5502. Might not other officers send him?—On his ceasing to be sick; we could not send him away because he applied for and obtained relief on account of sickness, but on his ceasing to be sick and on his becoming chargeable, we might.

5503. If he went into the hospital of the workhouse and had no settlement, might he not be sent over, according to the law?—Supposing he was not sick.

5504. But suppose that he was sick?—Then he could not.

5505. Are you clear about that?—Quite clear.

5506. *Chairman.*] You refer, do you not, to the provision of the 9th & 10th Vict., c. 66, s. 4: "Be it enacted, that no warrant shall be granted for the removal of any person becoming chargeable in respect of relief made necessary by sickness or accident?"—Yes.

5507. Mr. *Maguire.*] Suppose that man were not sick, but could not procure employment from one cause or another, and from no fault of his own, would you remove that man to Ireland?—We could by law; I do not think I would do it; at any rate I think he ought not to be removed; that is, supposing he had been five years already in London, and four years in Liverpool.

5508. I think the case is stronger if the man had been 47 years in England, and had never during that time applied for parochial relief, and was afterwards sent from England, because he applied to a particular parish; would you not think that a very cruel case?—Very cruel indeed.

5509. And would not you go so far as to say, that a law which admitted that was a very cruel law?—Yes.

5510. Or admitted cases of very great cruelty?—I should say it ought to be altered.

5511. Would you consider a law, which would allow of this man's removal, which I am going to read, as a very cruel law, and as admitting of great injustice; I refer to Question 946, in the evidence of Mr. O'Shaughnessy: "John Cotter, aged 61 years, states, that he resided 47 years in England, 30 years of which he lived in London, and the last 17 in Liverpool; he has a wife and two children with him. Himself and family were attacked with fever in October last, and they were admitted into the West Derby Fever Hospital, in the suburbs of Liverpool, where they remained about five weeks; when sufficiently recovered they were sent to the West Derby Workhouse; they were permitted to remain only three days, when they were forcibly put into a cart and conveyed on board a steamer for Cork. He was married in Liverpool, and all his children were born in Liverpool"?—I think no parochial officer ought to have any such power.

Mr. *George Carr*, called in; and Examined.

5512. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are now the master of the workhouse for the parish of Liverpool?—Yes.

5513. How long have you been so?—Since February 1852.

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5514. Before that time were you the master of the workhouse of the Cork Union in Ireland?—Yes.

5515. How long did you fill that office?—Three years.

5516. Has your attention been turned to the object of the inquiries of this Committee?—It has.

5517. Have you formed an opinion as to how far it would be practicable to do away with the law of removal of Irish paupers from this country to Ireland?—I have formed an opinion on it.

5518. What is your opinion on that?—My opinion is, that it would be very dangerous to abrogate the law of removal.

5519. Will you state the reasons which lead you to that conclusion?—They are founded principally on my comparison of the mode of relief in Ireland and in England. I find that in England out-door relief is very extensively given; I find, also, that the in-door system is very different to the in-door system in Ireland; and I think that out-door relief is a mode of relief that the Irish poor are very favourable to; and that if the law were changed, and they could get to England, they would have then the means of obtaining relief according to their own favourite system. If, again, they were sent to the workhouse, the mode of treatment there is so very much superior to the treatment in the Irish workhouses, that it would offer an inducement to the Irish poor to come to England.

5520. What do you mean by "superior;" do you mean less strict?—The diet is so very much superior, the comforts and the provision made by the English guardians are so very much superior, that in fact an English workhouse would be a sort of comfortable home for an Irish pauper compared with an Irish workhouse.

5521. And you say that Irishmen would prefer out-door relief before anything?—Certainly they do, as was very clearly proved by the experience in the famine crisis in 1847, with which I was very much mixed up. I believe the Poor Law Commissioners themselves give the strongest evidence of that fact.

5522. What were you in 1847?—I had been in 1842 connected with the Irish Poor-law.

5523. What were you in 1847?—I was at the Cork workhouse as accountant; I was also one year a guardian of the Cork Board, and I had every opportunity of witnessing the working of the system both before the famine and since.

5524. You went to the Cork workhouse, I think you say, in the year 1842?—Yes, as accountant.

5525. How long did you continue in that capacity?—Till 1847; then I was guardian for 12 months; I resigned the guardianship, and became master of the workhouse; I remained three years in that capacity, and was appointed subsequently from that workhouse as governor to the Liverpool workhouse two years ago; that is, twelve years altogether.

5526. You say that your experience in the year 1847 led you to the conclusion that the Irish very greatly preferred the out-door relief?—Yes.

5527. Will you state the facts which led you to that conclusion?—According to the reports of those union workhouses which gave out-door relief, we found that wherever out-door relief was in operation there was a sort of rush; the poor applied in large numbers, and in consequence of that feeling the guardians of Cork took store-room after store-room, and auxiliary workhouse after auxiliary workhouse, so as to increase to an enormous extent their workhouse accommodation; at one time the entire paupers under my own management were 7,300 and odd.

5528. In these different buildings?—Yes; this was all done for the purpose of meeting the pressure of pauperism, and not to resort to what was considered a ruinous system of out-door relief practised in other unions.

5529. This was in 1847?—Yes, 1847 and 1848. The Poor Law Commissioners themselves recommended the Boards generally to provide in-door accommodation, and in glancing over one of their reports I found a very strong paragraph bearing upon the subject, which I will take the liberty of reading. At page 13 of the second annual report of the Irish Poor Law Commissioners, paragraph 26, these words are recorded; "A very important feature in the administration of relief, during the present season, is the large extent of additional workhouse accommodation provided by the Boards of Guardians throughout the country. This has taken place under the influence of a strong and growing conviction, that the abuses incidental to out-door relief are not to be contended with by any administrative

administrative agency, when such relief is conducted on a large scale; and that a system of workhouse relief is preferable, not only in ordinary times, but in seasons of the severest distress. Thus, building after building has been hired, in aid of the workhouses originally built; and the entire accommodation, which was originally calculated at 100,000, and which, during the year 1847–8, was increased to 150,000, has, during the present season, been extended, so as to contain more than 250,000 inmates." In paragraph 28 of the same report, the Commissioners also say, "that the result of an adherence to an exclusive system of workhouse relief has been in all points satisfactory." I think that these two paragraphs clearly shows the feeling which the Poor Law Commissioners entertain on the system of out-door relief, and bear out the view which I myself strongly entertain, that it is dangerous to give the Irish pauper a chance of obtaining relief out of the workhouse.

5530. And practically, I believe out-door relief has been brought within very narrow limits indeed in Ireland?—Practically, it is an exception to the rule; the rule is to give relief in the workhouse, and the exception, to give relief out of the workhouse.

5531. They have workhouses all over Ireland?—They have.

5532. That system of in-door relief, as administered in an Irish workhouse, is more strict, you say, than in an English workhouse?—The labour test, as applied in an English workhouse, is, according to my judgment, a more effective test than in any Irish workhouse that I am aware of. But the discouraging part of the workhouse test in Ireland is the bad accommodation and the very low diet; it is miserably low, I should say; that is what I considered the worst feature of it.

5533. In your judgment, would it be practicable to reduce the Liverpool workhouse diet so as to put it upon a par with the Irish workhouse diet?—I should be very sorry to see any such thing done; I should very much prefer to see the Irish diets raised to the standard of the English.

5534. In your judgment, could that reduction take place consistently with public opinion and public feeling?—Certainly not.

5535. In your judgment, could the system of relief be made in this country altogether a system of in-door relief, which it is practically in Ireland, I understand?—No, I think not. We have at the present time accommodation in the Liverpool workhouse for 2,846 inmates, and we are increasing that accommodation so as to make provision for 3,000. We have now 2,260 inmates in that workhouse, which leaves a margin of about 500, but we cannot avail ourselves of 500 vacancies, for this reason: our house is divided into departments. We have a fever hospital equal to providing for a certain number; of course only fever patients can be there. We have then a department for cutaneous diseases and itch; only that particular class can come into that; so that we have apparently 500 vacancies, and yet have only a mere working margin. I think that before you could apply the workhouse system exclusively in Liverpool, you must make another workhouse to contain 3,000 people more.

5536. I understand you to think that public opinion would not sanction the making it entirely a system of indoor relief at Liverpool?—Such is my opinion; I do not think it would. I have a particular reason for knowing that. Some of our select vestry were under the impression that the system of out-door relief was given, not with sufficient strictness, and that cases of abuse were to be found on those lists; a quorum was formed, and several persons were struck off. The gentleman who presided at that quorum, and took an active part in it, was at the very next meeting attacked by another member of the vestry and was obliged to give up his attention to the subject, so that I have no doubt that public opinion in Liverpool would be opposed to an exclusive system of in-door relief.

5537. Then I understand you to be of opinion, judging from your experience of Irish paupers, on both sides of the water, first in the Cork workhouse and since in the Liverpool workhouse, that the workhouse system, in Liverpool, would not be of itself a sufficient check and test for Irish destitution?—Certainly not, except you assimilate the diets in both places. I know that the Board of Guardians of Cork and other Boards of Guardians were always apprehensive, that if they increased the dietaries, say of Cork, above the dietaries of the surrounding unions, it would tend to induce the paupers in those districts to come to Cork; that was one of the reasons why, perhaps, that diet was not increased, for there are a great many humane men on the board who would be most anxious to increase the diet. But the constant arguments put forth by the opponents of such a measure would be,

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that there would be an inducement to paupers of neighbouring unions to come there. If these arguments be true, and I believe they are, there is no reason why they would not be equally true as regards Liverpool.

5538. Then your judgment is that the workhouse test, of itself, would not be a safeguard against any influx of Irish pauperism to England?—I do not think it would, In the first place, we have not sufficient workhouse accommodation; and then, even if we had, I think the change from an Irish workhouse, by a pauper in that workhouse, to an English workhouse, would be a very desirable change indeed. Therefore, if he sees no hope but to be a pauper, he will endeavour to improve his condition by getting transferred to an English workhouse.

5539. Will you explain the difference in the treatment to which you allude?—In the Irish workhouse the diet consists, for the most part, of Indian meal made into what is called "stirabout" in the morning, and a quantity of milk. At the dinner there is brown bread, made, for the most part, of whole meal; that is, the wheat being ground down, leaving the bran in it. In some unions they use a mixture of rye meal and whole meal; this makes a coarse brown bread, and they get with that what is called "soup-porridge;" I would call it, or gruel; it consists generally of eight ounces of oatmeal to one gallon of water, with pepper and salt, and, at convenient seasons of the year, a little vegetable. That is the receipt for making it, according to the Poor Law Commissioners' sealed order in Dublin. Then again, the able-bodied classes, or the adult classes between the ages of 15 and 60, and the healthy, aged, and infirm classes, receive their dinner at about two o'clock, or perhaps from two o'clock to half-past two or three; they get no supper, and therefore till the next morning they are left without anything to eat. Then if you go into the dormitories, you find a provision made for those in the English house which is not made in the Irish; they have bedsteads, and there are never more than two in a bed, and of men never more than one in a bed; in the Irish workhouses there are more than that. Then again, stockings and other comforts are allowed in the English workhouses, and the dietary is served up in a different style. In some of the Irish workhouses they give the stirabout at dinner in place of breakfast, and serve it cold, so that it shall be more discouraging. I think I can name some unions where that is done. I know in the Macroom Union workhouse I heard from one of the guardians that it was so; and also I was given to understand (I saw it by the paper) that the same system was adopted in the Kanturk workhouse.

5540. Mr. *Maguire.*] I believe that statement was denied as to the Kanturk workhouse?—I am not aware that it was; I know I have heard it stated frequently by our Board at Cork, from a guardian, and also from the lips of the paupers at Cork, that they preferred coming to the Cork workhouse; and I have no doubt that Cork suffered very largely through their preferring to come there, because the diet in the Cork workhouse was more comfortably served; in fact, because it was hot, whereas in the other workhouse it was cold.

5541. *Chairman.*] Are there any other differences, either of discipline or of treatment, which you wish to point out?—I may say generally, that the treatment of the poor in the English workhouses is very humane indeed, and the guardians, when they go there, appear most anxious to afford any little comforts they can. Then again, the English workhouse is better arranged; the classification is better; there are more yards, where you can have classification better than in the Irish workhouse. In the Irish workhouse there is one general yard for all classes, that is to say, the adult classes; whereas, in the Liverpool workhouse, we have several yards where we can separate them, and in that way I think there is also an advantage in the English workhouse over the other.

5542. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Are all the Irish workhouses built upon one plan?—I believe generally there is some little difference in the Dublin workhouses, but the new workhouses are for the most part built on one plan. The average cost in Liverpool is nearly double what it is at the Cork house; that gives one an idea, of course, that the treatment is better.

5543. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Can you mention the cost in Liverpool and in Cork?—When I left Cork, the average was about 1*s.* or 1*s.* 1*d.*, and when I arrived in Liverpool it was 2*s.* 2*d.*, so that it was double; at present I do not happen to know the average cost in the Cork workhouse, but by newspaper report it is about 1*s.* 4*d.*, and in Liverpool it is 2*s.* 10*d*; just double.

5544. *Chairman.*] Have you heard from paupers themselves whether they prefer the English system to the Irish, or the contrary?—The paupers that are in the

the workhouse at Liverpool are settled paupers; paupers that we have no power to remove. I look upon them as our own paupers now, because they have acquired a settlement after five years; they are treated in every way precisely the same as our own paupers.

5545. Do those of the unsettled paupers who are relieved generally, receive outdoor relief in Liverpool?—The unsettled paupers rarely come under my observation, because they are sent down to Mr. Evans to be passed. We have in the Liverpool workhouse what is called a vagrant shed; and it is to this vagrant shed, where the system adopted is rigid, I think, in the extreme, that the Irish vagrants, those seeking to get passed home, are generally sent; and the treatment in that shed is different from the treatment in the workhouse.

5546. Do you know anything of any system of sending paupers over from Ireland to this country?—I am not aware of any organised system of sending paupers over; several instances came under my own observation of persons having been sent.

5547. While you were in Ireland?—While I was in Ireland. I may also say that, since I received a summons to attend here, I made an inquiry; and the very day before I left Liverpool a case came under my observation which, if the facts turn out to be true, is a very remarkable case.

5548. From whom did you receive that information?—I noted this from the boy's lips.

5549. An Irish boy?—An Irish boy; he is now in the workhouse at Liverpool. I am unwilling to mention the names of the gentlemen, unless the Committee wish it; but the statement to me was that he belonged to Ballinrobe Union, in the county of Mayo; his name is James Gormally, aged 13 years; he is an orphan of both parents. About the 21st of June, three gentlemen, and I have their names, guardians of that union, came to the workhouse and selected this lad and 15 more from the school; they made them fall in in a line before them, and ordered that they should be shifted from the school to the able-bodied yard, and they were placed to pump water; they were then informed that they should leave the workhouse. This lad, Gormally, went up to two of the gentlemen, and asked them for something, and one of them gave him 5*s.* and the other 2*s.*, telling him to be off to England; he went along by train to Dublin, and crossed over to Liverpool; and he arrived in Liverpool without one farthing in his pocket. The night he arrived he slept in our vagrant shed, and continued to sleep there night after night, getting nothing but what he got at night when he went in, and in the morning when he came out; he was fasting about during the day without dinner. Our shed is cleared in the morning about 10 o'clock, and they do not return again till five; so that whatever he got in the morning he would get nothing else till five from the parish. He continued to sleep in this shed up to the time I took this note, on last Tuesday. His clothing was very tattered and torn, and he said they were the same clothes he left the workhouse with; that he had been five years on and off in the workhouse; that he had taken pretty good clothes into the workhouse, but they had been lost, and that he got the old clothes when he was leaving. He says, he was born in a place called Glebe-street, in Ballinrobe; that his father lived there all his life, and was a carpenter. He gave the name of the master of the workhouse; being a very young lad, I was particular to ascertain all these minute points from him. He said, that he was allowed to leave the workhouse. I wanted to know how a lad of 13 could get out of the workhouse at all, being an orphan. I questioned him upon the point; he said, that he could get in and out as he liked, there being no check upon it; the anxiety being to get rid of him. He never, he says, on any occasion deserted from the workhouse. Now, that lad is in the workhouse at Liverpool, and, of course, can be produced; and I am ready to give the names of the individuals that he mentioned to me as having supplied him with this 5*s.* and 2*s.*; they are two guardians of that union.

5550. Mr. *Maguire.*] Will you give the names?—Yes; the chairman of the board of guardians is one of the three, his name is Martin; another is a guardian of the same board, Mr. Tye, a merchant in the town; the third is Colonel Knox. He says Colonel Knox is a very important man in that town, and the owner of a good deal of property about the town.

5551. Sir *J. Pakington.*] Did the boy state to you whether these three gentlemen spoke to him when they were together, or when they were separate, on different occasions?—He said they were all three together.

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5552. Were they acting at the time as members of the Board of Guardians, sitting at the board, or were they acting merely in their private capacity upon a private occasion?—He said that those guardians frequently came to the house, and he could not tell; I put that question to him, to know whether the Board was sitting, or whether they came as a section of the Board or not; he says he only knows that they came into the workhouse, and were together at the time; that they had been first up-stairs into the clerk's office, and that they came down. I should think they were not acting as part of the Board.

5553. Where did this interview take place?—In the workhouse; he was then one of the lads belonging to the school; and he and 15 others were sent for and brought before these gentlemen.

5554. Does the Board meet in the workhouse?—I believe so; I am not quite sure.

5555. Did the boy tell you whether there had been one such interview, or whether there had been more than one such interview?—As far as I could collect from him it all occurred in one interview, on one day.

5556. Did he tell you whether that interview occurred on the day of the meeting of the Board?—I asked the question; it was not the day of the meeting of the Board.

5557. You are quite clear upon that point?—I am. I wanted to know whether it was the act of the Board, or even the act of a committee.

5558. Did he tell you which of the gentlemen gave him the money?—Yes; he said that Colonel Knox gave him the 5 *s.*, and Mr. Tye the 2 *s.*

5559. Mr. *Liddell.*] Who desired him to go over to England?—He said it was Colonel Knox that told him to go to England.

5560. Sir *J. Pakington.*] Did he state to you anything that either of these gentlemen had said to him at the time?—I wanted to know; because, when he first mentioned the case, I understood that the whole 16 lads had been dealt with similarly. He said that their observations to the 15 lads were, that there was plenty of employment; that they were big boys, and should leave the workhouse.

5561. Am I to understand, from your last answer, that the boy told you that he was one of the 16 spoken to at the same time?—Yes; 15 boys were transferred from the school to the able-bodied class.

5562. Upon the same occasion?—Yes, upon the same day.

5563. Was that the day upon which the transfer took place?—Yes.

5564. Was he in the presence of the other boys, or alone, when this 7 *s.* was given to him?—He stepped up from the other boys to Colonel Knox, to apply for assistance, and it was then that Colonel Knox gave him the money.

5565. The other boys were some distance off?—I asked him why he went to Colonel Knox; and he said, that a boy named Martin Griffin had applied for money, and had it given him. I asked him whether Martin Griffin had been sent to England; and he said, no; that Colonel Knox had a very good name, and therefore he applied to him.

5566. Sir *J. Young.*] Then what you understood was this: that on a particular day 15 boys were transferred from the school to the able-bodied class and recommended to go out, there being plenty of work in the neighbourhood?—Yes.

5567. This one boy applied for assistance to go to England?—He does not say that he applied to go to England, but that Colonel Knox told him to go to England, and gave him 5 *s.*, and Mr. Tye 2 *s.*, for the purpose of taking him over.

5568. I thought you said that he went up to Colonel Knox after being warned to go out of the workhouse?—He went up to Colonel Knox himself, and asked him to give him something; and he said, "Here is 5 *s.* for you; go to England, and get something to do," and the other gentleman, Mr. Tye, gave him 2 *s.* This is his statement, and I was most particular in taking it down; I cannot vouch for its accuracy, for these people very often tell lies.

5569. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did you ask the boy whether he had any friends or relations in England?—Yes, and he had not; he appeared in extreme destitution, and he was such a lad as I was very sorry to find sent out upon the world without anybody to take care of him, from his extreme youth; I do not think any guardian or Board of Guardians would be justified in sending out a mere lad 13 years of age.

5570. Did he distinctly tell you that he had no relatives in England?—Yes; there was no object at all.

5571. How was it he asked Colonel Knox to send him to England?—He did not

not say that he asked Colonel Knox to send him to England at all; he said Colonel Knox told him to go to England.

5572. Would you not think it a natural question to ask him whether he asked Colonel Knox for assistance to go to England?—I am not quite certain that I put the question, but my impression is that Colonel Knox was the party who mentioned the subject.

5573. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Did you receive any information from this boy as to what became of the others?—I asked him what became of the others, and he said they were all told to go out; and he did not know whether they went out, but he thought they did.

5574. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Did he say whether the others were young?—I asked him the question, "Were the others as young as you; how does it come that a lad of your age should be allowed to go out; were the others the same as you?" He said, "I was the smallest of them; the others were bigger."

5575. Did you ask him whether he had ever been apprenticed out of the house to a farmer's house, or anything of that kind?—I did, and he told me that he never was. I catechised him closely as to the length of time he had been in the workhouse, and he said, five years, and I found on minutely inquiring that he had been out twice; once as servant to a soldier; and secondly, he had gone out about the town of Ballinrobe. I then wanted to know how it was that a lad of his age would be permitted to go out without persons guaranteeing for him. He said that there never was any difficulty in it; that any boy applying could get his discharge at any time. It is not so with us at Liverpool. We never let an orphan out, nor allow him to leave the house, unless we know the parties with whom he is going, or unless we apprentice him.

5576. *Chairman.*] Can you give the Committee any further information as to paupers being sent from Ireland to England?—I am aware that on some occasions subscriptions are made by gentlemen, perhaps sitting round in the Board-room, and I have done it myself. We have given perhaps 6*d.* each to parties representing a desire to come over, their husbands being here; or perhaps gentlemen, from humanity, may from their private purse have given a little money, and in that way parties may have got back. I am also aware that some humane gentlemen there in the coal trade have very frequently given passages to paupers in their coal vessels without charge; and also, that influence has been used with the Steam Packet Companies to send over a few, but I do not think there is any organised system of sending over persons in that way. The fact is, that the distress in Ireland was so very great in those years that it was considered a benefit to the unfortunate people there to shift them anywhere, where they could get relief. The destitution was very great indeed.

5577. Mr. *Maguire.*] In which years?—1847, 1848, 1849, and 1850.

5578. You do not say 1851, 1852, and 1853?—I do not know much of Ireland since 1852, except by newspaper report.

5579. *Chairman.*] Were there any number of English paupers in the Irish workhouses?—No; during my experience of 10 years in Ireland, I do not think I can bring to my mind a dozen English paupers as being there. I can remember one case of an English pauper who was obliged to remain several years in the workhouse at Cork because we had no power of sending her home; her name was Eliza Silvey; she had been several years in the Cork workhouse, and ultimately the guardians emigrated her to America; she would have gladly gone back to England if we had had the power of sending her.

5580. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Were there any Scotch?—I do not think there was one.

5581. *Chairman.*] You say that you have seen a good deal of the working of the present Law of Removal, and you have expressed an opinion that it cannot be safely relinquished; can you suggest to the Committee any improvements in that law?—I think that an individual who is self-sustaining in England for five years ought to be kept in England, and I think that a shorter term would induce parties to come over. There are certain things that I think very great hardships upon the Irish in the working of this law, that is to say, a man may have been 20 years in England, and may not have resided five years in any parish; the law requires that he should have been in one parish the next five years before his application for relief, and I always looked upon it as a very great hardship that a person who had been a series of years in England should, because he had not been residing in any parish the next five years before he applied for relief, be shifted away.

5582. What suggestion would you make with reference to that?—I think the shifting about from parish to parish is a great difficulty; I do not know exactly what suggestion to offer with regard to persons who are never five years in any one parish, but it appears to me very clear that a person who has been five years in any one parish may be safely allowed to have a settlement in that parish; supposing a man has been five years in Liverpool, if he goes out of Liverpool he is removable.

5583. If he goes to Toxteth-park, for instance?—Yes; that I think is an injury to Liverpool, because it gives this man a desire to remain there to obtain his right to relief. Liverpool has, therefore, to support him during the term of his natural life, for he cannot leave the place, so that it ought to be considered an advantage to Liverpool to extend the field of employment even if he came back in a month, or two or three months. I would, therefore, allow a man, after residing five years in Liverpool, to go anywhere for employment, and if he came back to Liverpool I would allow him to be relieved there.

5584. You would give him a settlement in Liverpool?—Yes.

5585. Which he should be able to claim during his life unless he obtained a subsequent settlement somewhere else?—Yes; I have very strong opinions of the hardship of this act, but I am ignorant of the exact mode of remedying it. I find it is the act of the poor people themselves shifting about which undoes all their previous work, and I think it is a great hardship. My objection to altering the law is merely founded upon a desire to protect the English from the vagrant class; persons who go about, and have no object in view.

5586. Do you think that a greater number of that class would come over if this power of removal were taken away?—I do.

5587. You say that five years, you think, should give a settlement; in your opinion, should a less period do it; might you abridge that period?—I think five years is a very fair time; I do not think it necessary to make it less than five years.

5588. Three or two?—I think five years is a sufficient protection for both sides.

5589. Then your proposition is, that five years' industrial residence in any one parish should give a settlement in that parish, which should remain with the person until he got another?—Yes; I certainly would not sanction the removal of a person who had been five years in any parish, if he went to the next parish to make an effort to sustain himself in preference to going into the workhouse of that parish where he was entitled relief; I think that is good for Liverpool or for any other parish.

5590. Have you any other suggestion?—The defect, which I am unable to deal with, is this, that a man shifting about for 20 years in, say London, from parish to parish, never getting a settlement, may be removed when he applies for relief; I do not know how that is to be dealt with; but I consider it a very great hardship.

5591. Is there any other suggestion which you wish to make to the Committee with reference to the existing law?—No, I think not.

5592. Sir *J. Pakington.*] You spoke of the shed at Liverpool; what sort of a shed is that; an open shed?—No, it is a covered shed; it is a large shed to which these persons are admitted at all hours of the night.

5593. What persons?—The vagrant class; it adjoins the workhouse, but we do not call it the workhouse; in that shed they merely receive the shelter of its roof, and a certain quantity of bread on coming in, and some bread in the morning.

5594. Though you call it a shed, it is walled in?—Yes.

5595. Not exposed on any one side?—No, certainly not.

5596. Is it divided into rooms?—Yes, for male and female.

5597. It is divided into only two rooms?—Yes.

5598. Does it contain beds?—What we call guard-beds, on the system of the soldiers' guard-bed; no blanketing or bedding.

5599. Any applicant, whoever he may be, is admitted into that shed?—Yes.

5600. Do you draw any line in regard to the hour of the night at which an applicant would be admitted into that shed, or into the body of the workhouse?—He can be admitted into the shed at all hours of the night, from five o'clock until morning.

5601. How do you draw the line between those placed in the shed and those admitted into the body of the workhouse?—Those admitted into the body of the workhouse

workhouse are admitted there by an order from a relieving officer. We have a relief department established, where officers receive applications for relief from nine in the morning till six at night, and they give orders for the workhouse.

5602. Then applicants without the relieving officer's order are placed in what you call the shed?—The strangers, the vagrant class, even if they apply to the relieving officer, are put into the shed. It is a sort of ordeal that they have to go through if they desire to be passed home.

5603. You give them one meal in the morning?—Yes, a very scanty meal.

5604. What is it?—Six ounces of bread and a little porridge.

5605. At what hour?—After they have performed their work. They have to grind 30 lbs. of corn in the morning, and 30 lbs. of corn at night, making daily 60 lbs.; that is, able-bodied men, not the aged. The women pick oakum, and things of that kind.

5606. At what hour is the evening meal?—They come in at five. They have to grind 30 lbs., and it is given when they have done their employment.

5607. You give a meal to each after the work is performed?—Yes.

5608. You give the evening work at whatever hour they may come in?—Yes.

5609. What does the evening meal consist of?—Six ounces of bread and a little porridge.

5610. No meal is given to any inmate of those apartments between those hours?—No; in fact, the law does not permit you to keep them beyond a certain hour of the morning; you must turn them all out. They go about their business, and perhaps they may return in the evening.

5611. As compared with the whole number of your inmates in the workhouse, have you a large proportion of Irish paupers?—More than one-third are Irish.

5612. What is the practice of the select vestry at Liverpool with regard to the relief of Irish applicants; do they ever give out-door relief?—There are the settled poor and the unsettled poor. The system in regard to the unsettled poor is, that if they accept of the workhouse they are putting themselves within the power of the officer to send them home. If they come to the workhouse with orders, the relieving officer generally writes on the orders, "To be passed;" they then come to my office to be registered. We get a medical certificate, and send them down to the pass officer.

5613. My question referred only to Irish applicants; therefore, I presume, when you spoke of settled or unsettled, you referred to the five years' irremovability?—Precisely so; there is a different mode of treatment.

5614. Do you ever give out-door relief to either the irremovable or the removable Irish?—To the irremovable we do.

5615. To the removable you never do?—No; I think not.

5616. You always admit them to the workhouse?—Yes, and pass them.

5617. Is it an invariable rule to remove back to Ireland all Irish applicants who are removable?—There may be cases where we would not do it; the removing part of it is not altogether within my province.

5618. But it is within your knowledge, probably?—I do know of cases where we would not remove them; for instance, if a person came that we thought was likely to obtain employment, we should rather encourage that person.

5619. Do I collect rightly from that answer that the rule of the select vestry with respect to Irish applicants who are removable is to relieve them in the workhouse, and to remove them as soon as possible?—Precisely.

5620. In the event of a change of the law making it impossible to remove them, do you, under those circumstances, believe that the workhouse would fail as a check upon the influx of Irish paupers?—I think it would.

5621. Even by increased severity?—Even by increased severity. I do not see how it is possible to guard against such an influx by the workhouse test; it would involve the necessity of a second workhouse, decidedly.

5622. It would involve the necessity of increased accommodation?—Yes.

5623. But supposing the increased accommodation to be provided, do you think that it would be efficacious as a check?—I think there would still be great inducements for the Irish paupers to get relief in England in preference to Ireland, in consequence of the superior treatment.

5624. Do you think practically upon the whole that the Irish paupers have a general dread or reluctance of being admitted into your workhouse?—They prefer out-door relief, but when destitute they go readily into the workhouse.

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5625. From your own experience in Ireland, are you of opinion that if the law were changed, and Irish paupers were rendered irremovable, there would be a great influx of Irish paupers to England for the sake of the benefits of the different system of relief which prevails in this country?—I cannot say whether there would or not, but my impression is that the tendency would be that way; that whereas there are a number of paupers in the workhouses in Ireland, if they find the system there a discouraging system, and know that on their arrival in England they will get a better treatment, they certainly will strive to avail themselves of that workhouse where the treatment is best. That is a natural feeling.

5626. Do you think it probable that there would be exertion made to send over paupers to this country who might be unable to pay their own passage, for the sake of getting rid of their maintenance in Ireland?—I should be very sorry to say that. I do not think it very likely. There may be some cases where a gentleman may assist an individual coming over, but I do not know that they would do so to throw the burthen upon the English parish.

5627. Even under the present law, by which Irish paupers are removable, I understand you to say you have known cases where that course has been taken?—Yes; but as to the motives of the gentlemen who did it, whether it was for the purpose of ridding the union of Irish paupers, or from motives of humanity, I cannot say.

5628. Mr. *Maguire.*] With reference to the Cork Board of Guardians, whenever any of its members have combined in a private subscription for the purpose of sending over a person, are you not in a position to say that their motives were apparent from their language?—Yes.

5629. In all cases, whenever there has been a collection made, were not the circumstances closely investigated by the gentlemen who did subscribe?—Yes, I think so.

5630. Are you not in a position to say, as far as your experience goes, that it was from motives of humanity, and not from the mere desire to get rid of the pauper, that those gentlemen did subscribe to send him to any other country?—I do not say it was from a selfish motive; I myself think it was from motives of humanity that they did it; I have myself subscribed, and I know that my own motives were those of humanity.

5631. Would it not be a very cruel thing on the part of gentlemen to subscribe to send a person over to England who had no possible means of supporting himself, or of employment in that country?—I think so.

5632. As far as your own knowledge goes, is not that idea generally entertained by Irish gentlemen, namely, that it is very cruel to send over persons to this country who have no possible means of support here?—I think that that idea does prevail, but I also think that this opinion prevails as well, that any person who is a pauper landed in England has a better chance of success than in Ireland, inasmuch as there is a greater field for employment, and they look upon England as a wealthier place.

5633. Whenever an application was made by an individual pauper to the members of the Cork Board of Guardians, did not those gentlemen inquire minutely into the case of the pauper?—Yes, they did.

5634. You can state that positively?—Yes; I know the fact.

5635. And when they satisfied themselves by examination that there was a chance of that pauper doing something for himself or herself in England, they then subscribed?—They were led away by the statement of the pauper, and they felt, of course, upon that statement, that there was a chance of the person doing something for himself.

5636. As to any organised system, you are ready to state that no such exists?—I am not aware of the existence of any organised system at all.

5637. If it did exist in any union in the county of Cork, would you not have been likely to have heard that such a system did prevail?—If I were to believe all I heard I should believe that there was a very large number sent over.

5638. Have you proof of that?—No; therefore I do not assert it.

5639. There was no such a thing done by the Cork Guardians?—I do not think there was.

5640. During your experience?—During my experience, except those cases that I spoke of, of passing assistance.

5641. I suppose that your apprehension for the future is in some respect based upon

upon your knowledge of what did actually happen in 1846, 1847 and 1848, that a vast number of poor rushed over to this country for relief?—Partly.

5642. Is it not scarcely possible to describe the condition of the South of Ireland in 1847 and 1848?—I do not think it was ever described by pen yet.

5643. Of your own knowledge, are you not aware that persons actually died in the streets of Cork at noon-day?—I am, and a very large number too.

5644. Are you also aware that numbers died under sheds in Cork?—I am quite aware they did.

5645. And that deaths were most frequent in houses?—Yes, and in the streets.

5646. Did you happen to hear of a case in a northern parish where 11 persons out of 16 were taken out dead in five days?—I think I heard something of it; I know I heard as bad a case, if not that; it is perhaps the same.

5647. It is then utterly impossible for the pen of man to describe what the condition of Ireland was at that time?—I think it is.

5648. And, therefore, any calculation formed for the future upon the state of things in those years would be perfectly erroneous?—I do not think it would be entirely correct, it may be partly so.

5649. Is not the state of things existing in Ireland now very different from the state of things which existed in those years to which I have alluded?—Certainly.

5650. Would you take the number in the workhouses in Ireland as a test of the condition of the country?—Yes, I would partly; I think some children in the workhouse now would almost show an exaggerated state of things, because there are a lot of children, in consequence of the famine of 1847, showing a return even greater than the actual state of things, so that it is unfavourable to your view.

5651. Would you say that the number in the workhouse would furnish a fair test of the condition of the country?—Yes, I think so.

5652. You said that the number in the Cork workhouse, I think, in 1847-1848, was 7,000 odd?—In 1849, 7,300 and odd.

5653. Out-door relief was stopped then?—There was no out-door relief ever given in Cork by the guardians.

5654. Seven thousand three hundred persons were in the union workhouse in Cork in 1849?—Yes.

5655. Do you know the number in Cork at the present moment?—Something over 4,000, I think.

5656. Would not the difference between the numbers in last year and the numbers in the years that you have alluded to, show a favourable state of things now as compared with them so far as that goes?—Since that particular time the guardians of Cork have emigrated a considerable number; I think as many as 800; these persons had resided a number of years in the workhouse; I think five years were required before they would emigrate; and I think you must add those 800, and then the number would run as 5,000 to 7,000.

5657. The total number in the workhouses in Ireland of all classes last year was 104,000?—Yes.

5658. Of those I might say that a great many either were born in the workhouses or came there at a very early period, and have remained ever since a burthen upon the unions?—Yes.

5659. Judging from the Cork Union, might that apply to many of the unions in Ireland; I find that there were 7,804 males, I believe they are called able-bodied males, in the workhouses in Ireland; from your experience you know that persons are often classed under the head of able-bodied, who really are not able-bodied?—So they are. The able-bodied class in Ireland consists of persons from the age of 15 to the age of 60; they may have wooden legs, or be without arms.

5660. It is more a nominal than a real classification?—It is.

5661. If I said there were scarcely 2,000 really able-bodied out of those 7,804, I think I should be very near the truth?—Of really able-bodied, such as a man would be likely to hire for employment, I do not think there would be even that number.

5662. I believe, though you have been connected with the Liverpool Workhouse since February 1852, you know something of the state of things in Ireland?—Yes; I have watched it very closely as far as the newspaper reports go.

5663. I believe you are aware that there is a great deal of improvement in respect of employment, even for women and children?—Yes, I believe so.

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5664. Are you aware that the education, of which I believe you yourself were to a certain extent the promoter, has done a great deal of good in inciting a desire for industry, and rendering the idea of pauperism more odious?—I think it has; that industrial teaching in the workhouse has done a great deal to effect it.

5665. Might not this be shown as rather a satisfactory result of the influence of education in the workhouse; I take it from the Report of the Irish Poor-law Commissioners of last year: "14,273 girls under 15 years of age were employed in household work, sewing, knitting, washing, baking, embroidering and spinning." I suppose that education is carried on to a great extent in the workhouses?—Yes.

5666. "It is satisfactory to us, that 5,371 children under 15 years of age obtained employment outside the workhouse during the year 1852; and we have no doubt that at least an equal proportion have done so during the past year." That at least shows that employment is increasing outside, when even those who have had the disadvantage of a workhouse education find employment?—There is no doubt whatever that the employment is increasing outside.

5667. Have you seen this report?—I have not.

5668. The Commissioners, after stating that there was no increase in the rate of wages from 1845 until the beginning of 1853, state that there was a material increase, and that agricultural employment has been more continuous than formerly; does not that show a very different state of things from what existed in any of the years to which you have alluded?—It does; it shows the improved state of the country.

5669. Taking into account all the circumstances of the country, of which you are aware, and of which you must have an intimate knowledge, can you really dread that there will in future be any large number of destitute persons coming from Ireland to England?—I do not exactly say that there will; still, I think, that comparing the dietary here, and the treatment of the pauper, when that person is a pauper, the natural tendency will be, that they will endeavour to come where they get the best treatment; that is my opinion.

5670. Speaking of a pauper, do you mean a person who is at the present moment in an Irish workhouse?—I do.

5671. How can that person procure means to leave Ireland and come to England, unless through the exertion of individual charity?—I do not know; a great many of them have friends outside that may assist them; they are, a great number of them, under the impression that if they could get to England, perhaps their pauperism would cease.

5672. Taking the cost of passage, and all circumstances into consideration, is it likely that a very large number of those persons would come to England?—I cannot say.

5673. Is it not just as likely that a large number of those persons, either male or female, would find employment outside, in Ireland?—I think that if they could find employment outside they would not come to England.

5674. Are you clear upon that?—I am; I never knew a pauper in the Irish workhouses that would remain there if he could get employment.

5675. If those young girls who are educated to so large an extent in the workhouses in Ireland do find such employment as those 5,371 in 1852 did, there is no chance of any of them coming to England?—Not if they can get employment.

5676. Is there any chance of their coming to England for the mere purpose of procuring the diet of an English workhouse?—I think not, provided they can get employment.

5677. If these persons, thus educated, do come to England, do you think they come for the purpose of begging?—No.

5678. But for the purpose of finding employment?—Certainly.

5679. Do you know the fare from Cork to Bristol, for a deck passage?—I am not aware; I believe it is 7*s.* 6*d.*

5680. That, I believe, is the monthly advertisement of the Cork company (*handing a Newspaper to the Witness*)?—Yes.

5681. And that of course is reliable authority?—Yes.

5682. What is the deck passage from Cork to Bristol?—Ten shillings.

5683. What is the deck passage from Cork to Liverpool?—Ten shillings.

5684. Look to the deck passage from Cork to Plymouth?—Ten shillings.

5685. From Cork to London?—Twelve shillings.

5686. You stated to the Committee that in Ireland the better dietary in the Cork Union induced some poor to come from other unions to Cork. If I admit that

that that is quite possible, would you say that the same inducement would be so powerful as to influence a pauper to leave Ireland for the mere purpose of obtaining a better diet in England?—I think if you once admit that the person is a pauper, and that pauper believes that he can come into the Liverpool workhouse and not be sent back again, the inducement which he will find in that Liverpool workhouse is such as will cause him by all means to strive to get here to obtain it.

5687. From what unions in Ireland do the paupers come to Cork?—Very many; I cannot particularly name them, but in the exercise of my duty cases have come before me of persons who have said, "I would rather come here;" I heard Mr. Jameson himself give cases before the Committee.

5688. From what union?—We have had paupers from other unions about the country, but I cannot name the particular union from which they came.

5689. Might I say that Macroom or Middleton is one of those unions?—Middleton, I think, is a well-managed union; Macroom is a union from which they would be likely to flee.

5690. Or Bandon?—Perhaps so.

5691. Macroom, I believe, is 20 miles from Cork, and Bandon about 18?—Yes.

5692. Considering the distance between Cork and Liverpool or London, would you say that the same influence would have the same results?—I do not exactly know.

5693. Would you say that a pauper who was induced to go from one union to the other in Ireland would be induced to go from that union in Ireland to England merely for that purpose?—If he had the means of coming to Liverpool, I think he would come to Liverpool. In addition to that, there is a feeling in their minds that if they can come to England there is a better chance of employment, and I also know that a large number of those persons who come over to England for employment form their own estimate of their worth; they never consider that parties wanting labourers will only employ an active labourer capable of doing a day's work; and a large number of those who come over actually do search for employment, who when they come here are found not fit labourers, and those persons would become chargeable here if we had not the power of sending them back.

5694. But you must assume that those persons would have the price of the passage-money?—Yes; that is one reason why my apprehensions would be awakened; persons who have the price of the passage-money in Ireland, and who may be said to have their all in that, come over here, and fail to get employment; those persons, if we had not the power of sending them back again to Ireland, would positively become chargeable on the parish; they very frequently fancy themselves labourers when they are not labourers.

5695. If you saw it stated upon the authority of a poor-law inspector that farmers were in many instances obliged to put up with an inferior class of labourers from the diminution of the really able-bodied in the country, would your apprehensions still be as strong as ever?—Of course, the greater the field for employment is the less my apprehensions would be. If I saw Ireland raised exactly to the same level that England is, then I should have no apprehensions at all about it.

5696. If you saw that there was greater agricultural activity in Ireland, and if you also heard that men of the highest authority, such as a member of the Cork Board of Guardians, the Chairman of the Waterford Board of Guardians, the Chairman of the Limerick Board of Guardians, stated that in many instances there was not sufficient labour in the country, would not your fears under those circumstances be lessened?—Not entirely, because that will apply only to the men. Now there are a very large class of women in the Irish workhouses that are not yet provided for; there are also a very large class of what we call deserted women; their husbands are in England, perhaps, looking about for employment, and I believe there are large numbers of deserted women in the Irish workhouses. If the law were altered, these women could be transferred to the English workhouses, and remain there.

5697. What means would they have of being transferred; what means would any parties have of transferring them?—The husband, at the time he leaves the wife, cannot be considered a pauper at all; he goes out and labours, and saves up as much money as will perhaps pay his passage across; his wife is a consenting party to this. If the law were altered, she, perhaps, would insist upon his stopping for the means of bringing her and the children across to England, and

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he could put her in any workhouse he pleased in England, and leave her there while he went for employment. The present law is a check upon that, because if a wife is deserted by her husband, and even after five years' residence in England is so deserted, she is liable to be sent back; so that the law, in my opinion, acts as a sort of check upon desertion, the wife herself having an interest in seeing that the husband does not so desert her; and I think in that way the change would act injuriously.

5698. If even for the last couple of years you saw that the class of women had been diminished in the Irish workhouses, and had become employed outside, what reason should you have for saying that you apprehended a large number of them coming over to England?—It is only what I look forward to as natural that the number of poor in the Irish workhouses should diminish as the state of the country advances; but after it settles down to what it was in the years of 1842, 1843, 1844, and 1845, years with which I am perfectly familiar, I still think there will be a large number of poor in the workhouses, and I think it impossible to rid the English and Irish workhouses of able-bodied paupers, and children dependent upon them, and young girls who grow up to womanhood in the workhouse. I think if by any chance they could get to England, it would be a hardship upon England to be saddled with their maintenance, and to have no power of sending them back. If there is no danger of their coming over the law remains as it is, and there can be no injury to either side; but if there is a danger I think it desirable that the law should remain as a sort of check.

5699. You have referred to the country settling down to what it was in the years 1842 and 1844; do not you know that at that time there was what was generally considered a superabundant population, and that there was considerable distress, though not at all equal to what there was in 1846 and 1847?—I do not think there was distress, because the number of paupers in the workhouse had never exceeded 1,700 or 1,800.

5700. Was not the Poor-law of very recent origin then?—It began in 1839, I think, and in 1842, 1843, 1844, and 1845, it had been recently established.

5701. Mr. *Liddell.*] You have been connected with the Liverpool Workhouse since the beginning of 1852?—Yes, since February 1852.

5702. Have you any returns of the number of applicants for admission into the workhouse at Liverpool in recent years, say in the last five years?—Yes; I think these returns were all quoted by Rector Campbell. I have the copy of them which he answered from.

5703. Be so good as to restate those returns from the year 1850?—In the year ending March 1851, the number of persons admitted into the Liverpool workhouse was 3,754; in 1852, 4,058; in 1853, 4,743; and in 1854, 5,047.

5704. So that, in point of fact, there has been a gradual increase in the number of those admitted into the workhouse at Liverpool in those four years which you have cited?—There has.

5705. Can you say what proportion of them are Irish?—Those which I have given are all Irish.

5706. Have you any returns of the number of the applicants for casual relief, exclusive of those admitted into the workhouse?—I have not that exactly in detail, but the average is about 700 weekly, three-fourths of which are Irish. The actual return I have not got.

5707. *Chairman.*] For what period are you speaking now?—For the last year.

5708. Mr. *Liddell.*] Do you find that that is a greater or a smaller average than that of the preceding years?—It is lower; some weeks it will be as high as 1,000.

5709. You observe, then, that so far from there being any decrease in these returns which you have cited, of Irish applicants for admission into the workhouse of Liverpool, there is an increase in those four years?—There is an increase.

5710. Although there is something of a decrease in the number of applicants for casual relief?—Yes.

5711. Has the number of removals to Ireland under warrant diminished?—I do not know anything about the warrants.

5712. Although there is, I am happy to hear, a marked increase in the rate of wages in Ireland in recent years, there is still a marked difference between the rate

rate of wages received in England and the rate of wages received in Ireland generally, is there not?—There is.

5713. And do you not apprehend that, so long as that difference continues, the tendency of Irish labour will be to flow into this country in greater or less numbers?—I think so.

5714. Not only are the wages of labour larger in England than in Ireland, but, as I have understood you to say, the dietaries and the treatment in the English workhouses, in case of a man being reduced to a state of pauperism, are better and more liberal than in the workhouses in Ireland?—Decidedly so.

5715. Will not there be those two inducements for Irish labour to go over to England, from the knowledge that as long as a labouring man can obtain a better rate of wages, so long he will be better off in this country, and if he is exposed to destitution and poverty he will get also a better treatment in the workhouses?—Precisely so. I think that the natural effect of such a state of things would be to induce paupers to come, and, perhaps, labourers to come even in a greater number than we find come, and that a large number would be destitute; and if the law were altered they would become chargeable to English parishes.

5716. And those causes you may calculate will assuredly operate so long as that discrepancy exists between the price of labour in England and Ireland, and between the treatment of the poor in the workhouses in England and in Ireland?—I think they will, to a greater or less degree.

5717. Mr. *J. Ball.*] You think that the necessity for maintaining the law, as it is now, arises not so much from any necessity for removing the Irish poor, who are already in England, as in order to prevent more paupers from coming over?—As a check to prevent more from coming.

5718. From what you know of the town of Liverpool, do you think that the great majority of the Irish population there do live by their labour?—I think they do; a very large majority of them.

5719. And you do not think it desirable or necessary to take advantage of the present law, for the purpose of getting rid of that class?—I think it desirable as a check on that class, too; I think there are a great many now supporting themselves in industry, who owe that position to the fact of the existing law. I think if they could have had out-door and in-door relief by application, they would not have made the efforts they have made, a great number of them; they would have been hopelessly paupers at the present day; but the knowledge that if they apply for relief they will subject themselves to be removed back to Ireland, causes them to strain every nerve to search for employment in England, and they are successful.

5720. If the law were altered, do you think that it would have the effect of inducing a great number of the Irish who are now making a living in England, to become paupers and apply for relief?—I think there are a great number of them who would apply for out-door relief.

5721. If they could not get out-door relief, do you think they would come into the workhouse?—Perhaps some of them would, and some would not.

5722. Do you think many would come?—No; but I think it is impossible, or very difficult, for us, without an enormous expenditure, to provide such a superabundance of workhouse accommodation as would be an effectual check against it.

5723. I think you stated that the present workhouse accommodation is for 2,846?—Yes; in addition to which we have a large school holding 1,200.

5724. Are you aware that towns in Ireland, having very considerably less resources than Liverpool, have provided accommodation for a much larger number?—Yes; in Dublin there are two large workhouses, each able of accommodating as many.

5725. And in Cork there were at one time, you say, 7,000?—Yes, with the auxiliary workhouses; they believed that it would be dangerous to give out-door relief, and therefore they took auxiliary workhouse after auxiliary workhouse, so as to meet the pressure.

5726. Are you aware that the same thing is true in Limerick?—I am aware that it is done in a great number of instances.

5727. Are the resources of those unions in Ireland very much less, to your knowledge, than of the town of Liverpool?—Yes; I think they are.

5728. Therefore, if upon general grounds it be thought expedient that workhouse relief should be administered in Liverpool, do you think it can be considered

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sidered as a great grievance that it should have to provide an amount of accommodation equal to that provided by a much smaller Irish town?—I think it very right that they should provide accommodation for all the poor in their own town, but I think it very unjust that they should have to provide workhouses for persons who come there without any object in view. If the Liverpool people were obliged to find workhouses for their accommodation, I think it would be a very great injustice indeed.

5729. Therefore the object which you have in view is mainly to prevent paupers coming over from Ireland, and not to remove those who have been working in England?—I do not think that any person who had been working in England five years ought to be removed, although he shifted from the parish in which he obtained rights to relief, and went to another parish. I would allow him to come back again.

5730. Your apprehension as to the arrival of Irish paupers in Liverpool is grounded partly upon knowing cases of persons in Ireland coming into the Cork Union; were you aware at the time, that those persons were committing a breach of the law?—I was aware of that; but it was not altogether so much on the knowledge of the cases that I alluded to, but I may state that the general impression made upon my mind, and I believe that it is very extensively entertained by guardians generally in union workhouses, is, that if you give an improved diet in one union, it will be availed of by the paupers of the other unions; and to meet that, the Poor-law Commissioners themselves, in their sealed order, laid down a system of diet, which is a sort of uniform system all over the country, and is very generally adhered to, for the very purpose of discouraging persons travelling about from one place to the other. I know it is a crime to do it, but you very often cannot provide against it.

5731. As you refer to that order, are you aware that that merely prescribes a minimum?—I am quite aware of that; Boards of Guardians are not to give less than what is there stated, but it is very unlikely that they will give more. Some unions do give more, others do not. I applied myself to 24 Irish workhouses; I wrote letters to the masters of 24 workhouses and obtained their diet tables, which were produced to the Committee, and I did the same with respect to 24 English workhouses. I did it indiscriminately, and selected them without any particular object but to get the best information; and I found almost generally that this diet was adhered to.

5732. Was Belfast one of those?—Yes.

5733. Did you observe that the dietary in Belfast was a good deal above the others?—It is a very respectable dietary; meat is allowed.

5734. Have you heard that Irish paupers flock from other workhouses into the town of Belfast?—I have not heard of it, nor have I inquired about it.

5735. From your knowledge of the Irish law, do you think that, if it were strictly enforced, it would pretty effectually prevent that?—I think so.

5736. And do you think it pretty safe to conclude, that that is a protection to Belfast against the influx of paupers from the poorer districts?—I think so; I think they may suffer, but not to any great extent.

5737. Do you think that a similar state of the law, with regard to persons going from one place to another in England, accompanied with the power of sending parties back who come without visible means of obtaining a living, would protect Liverpool?—If you give us the power of sending them back it is the very thing I am asking for, as I wish to retain it.

5738. You will observe that there is a great difference between the power of punishing and removing persons who come when actually destitute of means of support or of earning anything, and removing people after they have been established in a place, and after they have been employed?—Yes.

5739. The two propositions are very different; and I ask you whether you think the first would be sufficient as a protection to the English ratepayer?—I think that the vagrant class come without any visible object to England, and that the power of sending them back again effectually meets that case; but with regard to a person seeking employment, if he does not obtain employment and becomes chargeable, it is equally a burthen upon the ratepayers of England to have to support such an individual. But if he succeeds in getting employment as an independent labourer for five years, according to the present law, there is no cause of complaint; and I never heard anybody say they would object to supporting such an individual and his family in the workhouse in England.

5740. I think

5740. I think a question was put by the Honourable Member for Liverpool, as to Irish labourers being stimulated in coming from Ireland to England by the superior diet of the workhouses; do you think that Irish labourers come over with a view to the treatment which they would get if they should become paupers?—If a person comes over as a labourer, with the knowledge that he has a chance of getting employment in England, and also with the knowledge that if he does not succeed, and has to become a pauper, he will be in a better position than if he had to be a pauper in Ireland, I think the knowledge of all these things, the high wages, the better mode of relief in the workhouse, and all these things together, form a group of inducements that would cause him to come to England.

5741. Do you think, practically, that with the large number of Irish labourers who do come over, either for a short time or intending to remain in England, the great motive is the increased rate of wages?—I do; to obtain employment at a higher rate of wages than at home, or to obtain employment at all; but of the large number of vagrants who come over, a great proportion come to our vagrant sheds who are not what you would call able-bodied labourers, although they form an estimate of their own worth. They very frequently fail in getting employment, and become pauperised in Liverpool, that is, as far as that state of things goes; but if you altered the law, all these people would become permanent burthens upon Liverpool, and I would wish to maintain the power of sending home such people as a check against it.

5742. Of the large number who do come over, do you think that some apply for relief in Liverpool for the purpose of getting removed to Ireland, who want to go back?—No doubt.

5743. A considerable number?—A very large number.

5744. Are you aware that, out of the large number removed from Liverpool to Dublin, a great many never asked for relief in Dublin?—I have heard so, and believe it.

5745. Those are, in fact, people making their way back to Ireland?—Yes.

5746. Does not the existence of the present law, in that way bring an increased charge upon the ratepayers in Liverpool, which they otherwise would not have?—If they were refused to be sent home, they might have no means of getting home, and would therefore become chargeable upon the parish; in that case it would be a permanent charge.

5747. Have you ever heard of Irish labourers sending home their earnings by post-office order, and then applying for relief to get over?—I think I have heard cases of that sort; I have no doubt it is the fact. I know that persons who have come into our vagrant sheds have been searched, and have had money upon them enough to pay their passage three times over.

5748. They naturally take advantage of the law?—Yes.

5749. Being an officer of the Liverpool Union, you very naturally share in the sympathies of the Liverpool ratepayers; but does it seem just to you to send those people over who cannot get a living to be chargeable upon the ratepayers of Dublin?—I do not think it is right to do so; but I assure you I have no sympathy on the one side or on the other, but merely to do what is just.

5750. I merely wish to know whether you think it a desirable thing to send these paupers who cannot get a living in Liverpool, and who become chargeable to the ratepayers there, over to be charged upon Dublin?—I think it equally unjust to send them to any of the seaports to which they do not belong as to maintain them here.

5751. As you think it desirable to retain the existing law, can you make any suggestion how that great injustice is to be avoided?—I do not know that I am able to give any practical suggestion on that. I should say that some remedy could be easily found by which they could be sent, perhaps, to their own unions.

5752. But the recommendation of the present law is that it saves from a hardship the ratepayers of Liverpool, and imposes the same hardship upon the ratepayers of the seaports?—I do not think that desirable. I think some arrangement should be made by which they should be sent to their own unions; but by what means that is to be carried into effect I think I must leave with the Committee.

5753. From your knowledge of the working of the law in Ireland, of which you have had some experience, do you think it desirable to introduce a law of settlement in Ireland?—I do not know. I know that there is a very strong feeling against it in Ireland, and I do not think it would be desirable.

5754. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] It has been given in evidence before the Committee,

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mittee, that the Irish labourers who come to Liverpool are a great advantage to Liverpool?—I have formed a strong opinion that they are a very great advantage. You find them doing all the heavy work of the town.

5755. That advantage arises from their numbers keeping down the high price of labour?—Yes; and the peculiar sort of work which they are at.

5756. But for the Irish, in fact, labour would be considerably higher in Liverpool than it now is?—Yes, I think it would.

5757. That reduction of the price of labour in Liverpool operates to the prejudice of the English labourer?—Yes, it does.

5758. Any English labourer who pays a rent of 15 *l.* a year in Liverpool is assessed to the poor?—Yes.

5759. Then, being an English labourer and assessed to the poor, and half the rates in Liverpool being for the relief of Irish paupers, he is not only prejudiced, so far as reducing the price of his labour, but he is also prejudiced inasmuch as he is charged to support these men who really go in competition with him?—I think it does act in that way.

5760. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is not the country benefited?—Decidedly; I think the country is benefited.

5761. Mr. *J. Ball.*] You stated in reply to the Honourable Member for Liverpool, that the number of Irish paupers in the workhouse had increased for the last five years; is it also the fact that the number of the Irish working class in Liverpool has increased in at least the same proportion during that time?—I have not any means of knowing that; I rather think they have, but I do not know exactly.

5762. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] You have stated that that competition of the Irish tends to reduce the price of labour in Liverpool, and therefore the parties employing that labour are benefited by that reduction?—Yes, they are, of course.

5763. Still, any competition which reduces the value of the English labourer, tends to his prejudice?—It reduces his wages, as a matter of course.

5764. Therefore, so far as the English labouring class are concerned, the vast import of Irish labour tending to reduce the wages of the English labourer is a prejudice, in a considerable degree, to that English labourer?—That may be, or it may not; because the price of English labour may rise to such a height as absolutely to prevent the manufacturer of England producing his article at such a price as would enable him to compete with other countries; and therefore it may be that, by the Irish labourers coming to Liverpool, and by the very fact of their keeping down the price of labour, the manufacturers are able to compete successfully with other persons in their manufactures.

5765. That is an advantage to the master manufacturer employing the labour; but still, if the influx of labour reduces the price to the English labourer, he is by that reduction prejudiced?—It may be that he is prejudiced, as I said before; but so long as the rate of wages is at such a standard as it is now, I think he cannot be said to suffer very much, because it is very high at present.

5766. An English labourer's wages at present are 15 *s.*?—Yes.

5767. If his wages of labour were 25 *s.*, would he not be very much better off;—Yes, if the masters could afford to give it.

5768. Supposing no Irish labour were imported, and the English labourer's wages were 25 *s.*, would it not be better for him?—Yes, of course it would; but the English people would have to pay for it in the end in whatever they use or wear.

5769. Then whatever competition in labour comes against the English labourer to reduce his wages tends to his prejudice?—Of course it does.

5770. *Chairman.*] Does not the influx of Irish labour encourage the undertaking of various great enterprises which could not be undertaken without?—Unquestionably.

5771. Do not all classes of the English community benefit by it?—Yes; although the labourer himself may not be able to maintain an unfair rate of wages, the community are benefited by it to a large extent.

Jovis, 6° die Julii, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.
Mr. Liddell.
Mr. Dunlop.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.
Colonel Blair.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Mr. Ingham.

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *William Cleaver*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Cleaver*

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5772. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are Clerk of the West Derby Union?—I am.

5773. What district does that union comprehend?—It entirely surrounds Liverpool, with the exception of that part which is bounded by the River Mersey.

5774. It is altogether on the Lancashire side?—It is.

5775. And it comprehends a large part of what is popularly called Liverpool, does it not?—It does; it comprises the whole of the townships of Everton and Kirkdale, which are within the borough, and the two townships of Toxteth Park and West Derby, which are partly within the borough.

5776. How long have you held your present office?—I have been clerk about 12 years; I have acted as clerk since the formation of the union.

5777. What is the population of your union?—At the last census, it was about 153,000, I think.

5778. During the time you have acted as clerk to the West Derby Union, have you also acted as magistrates clerk?—I have, in all matters relating to the poor.

5779. For what magistrates?—The magistrates of the county of Lancaster, of the West Derby hundred, the Kirkdale division.

5780. You have had, therefore, in both characters, I apprehend, an abundant opportunity of seeing the operation of the law as to the removal of Irish paupers?—I have.

5781. Will you describe to the Committee what the process is with regard to the removal of an Irish pauper in your union, from the time that he becomes chargeable; it is upon his chargeability that his removability attaches?—Precisely so; the parties are not in every case brought before the guardians before being removed. If, in the interval between the meetings of the Board, the relieving officer gives casual relief to an Irish pauper, he has the direction of the Board to take him before the magistrates on receiving that relief, if he considers him a party who ought to be removed, and who is likely to remain chargeable; he is then taken before the magistrates in petty sessions.

5782. Are all your cases disposed of in petty sessions?—Every case; I do not know of an exception.

5783. And consequently in open court?—Always in open court before two magistrates.

5784. Is the pauper examined?—Always.

5785. And any other witnesses, I suppose, who may be thought likely to throw light upon the matter?—There is very seldom any other witness examined, except the parties themselves are reluctant to give evidence, and then we swear the officer who has previously had communication with them, as to the facts which he has received from their own mouth.

5786. And the whole takes place in public?—The whole takes place in open court.

5787. You are aware that the Act states, that the magistrates may, if they shall so think fit, make the order?—Yes; that discretion is often exercised, and occasionally they refuse to send the paupers, on account of any apparent chance

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of their earning their own livelihood, or their being too infirm, or anything of that kind.

5788. When the order is made, what is the next step?—If they are parties who have any known residence, they are allowed to go to their residence until the time when the packet will leave the port of Liverpool. If they have no known residence, they are then taken to the workhouse, and there kept, until the time of the packet sailing.

5789. What is done when they are taken to the packet; do you know of your own knowledge how that is?—I do not know more than that I see, by the bills which are brought before the guardians, the money which is expended in their outfit for clothing, and also for their necessary food; and something is always given them besides, that they may have a resource when they land in Ireland.

5790. Is it the practice to give a duplicate of the order of removal to the captain?—It is not.

5791. Where does the charge of your officer with respect to them end; upon taking them down to the water side?—If they are paupers who are able to take care of themselves, his charge ends when he sees them actually on the packet; he always takes a receipt of the captain or steward for the money paid for their passage.

5792. The officer then delivers the pauper to the captain or steward, and pays the money at the same time?—Exactly.

5793. And takes a receipt?—And takes a receipt. In case of infirm persons or children who are not supposed to be able to take care of themselves, the officer always goes with them himself to Ireland.

5794. Have you made any general observations as to the description of persons who have been the subject of removal from your union?—I have taken an account, since I knew that I was coming here, of the sexes, and I find that there are nearly double the number of females sent to males; and I may state generally, that they are of a class who would not be able or willing to get their own living if they remained here; they are what I call the vagrant class generally. We occasionally have families, who state that they have been left by their husbands and fathers who have gone into the country, and they would remain a charge upon us for some time if they were not removed; but as we consider that the same law operates with respect to them as to English paupers, namely, that in the absence of the head of the family they are removable, we send back the wives and children of men who act in that way towards their families.

5795. You mean when the head of the family has taken up his residence in some other place?—When he has gone up the country after work, or on some other pretext, and has left them in Liverpool unprovided for. He would be removable, and they are equally under the same liability.

5796. After removing them, have you seen them again?—Very frequently.

5797. They have come back?—They have often come back.

5798. At what intervals?—Various intervals; I have known them come back in less than a fortnight. I have known the same paupers brought before the magistrates within a fortnight of their being removed.

5799. Have you heard them questioned as to how it was that they came back?—I have, frequently; the magistrates have often remonstrated with them and threatened them, and on their being told that they would be sent to prison if they returned again, they have stated that they would rather be in prison than go back to Ireland; and they have often told me themselves that they would rather die than remain in Ireland.

5800. Have they assigned any reason for it?—No; the magistrates have told them, "You have a workhouse in Ireland if you like to go to it;" and they have said, "Yes, but we will not go to it."

5801. Have you heard that said repeatedly?—I have.

5802. Have you ever learned from any of them how they were furnished with the means of coming back?—Yes, frequently. I have often been told that they have been sent back by persons whom they described as persons in authority; it was very seldom that they could give any names; but they have told me that they have been officers or persons who have had the care of them during the time they have applied for relief, and who have relieved them; and that those same parties have paid their passage back to England.

5803. Has that happened more than once?—Yes, on several occasions.

5804. When

5804. When did you hear a statement of that sort last?—Within the last 10 days.

5805. You are not speaking of the year 1847 exclusively?—Certainly not; I am speaking of the present time.

5806. There was, I suppose, a very great pressure, as we have heard, and as does not seem to be controverted, in the year 1847?—There was.

5807. A peculiar one?—Yes; there were greater numbers than I remember at any other time.

5808. It has been suggested here that the power of removing Irish paupers might be properly done away with; what is your opinion upon that point?—I think it would act very harshly towards the ratepayers of unions situated like our own, which is so near the port of Liverpool where they land, and indeed to all ratepayers in the country; they must all, to a greater or less degree, be affected by it.

5809. Will you state the objections which occur to you to that proposition?—I think that the Irish poor are not treated in the same way in their own country as the English poor are here; therefore there are inducements for them to leave their own country and come to England, knowing that they are better provided for.

5810. Just explain your meaning when you say that they are not treated in the same way as the English poor?—I have been informed, in the first place, that there is no out-door relief given in Ireland; and, in the next place, that the treatment in the workhouses in Ireland is not quite so good as it is in England; and I judge of it from this: that very few of our Irish paupers object to go into our workhouses, and being once there, they never wish to leave; and when they are told by the magistrates that they have workhouses in Ireland, they treat it with contempt; therefore, I judge from those facts, that they consider the workhouses in England and in Ireland as two very different things.

5811. Do you say this from the experience of a few cases or of many cases?—I have heard very many cases where they have objected to go back to Ireland, and I know of many cases where they have remained, and would remain, in our workhouse until they were absolutely forced away.

5812. And you have known those reasons which you have now mentioned assigned for it?—I have known the statement made that they would not go back to Ireland, but they have never stated why they would not go back; they have said that they would rather die here than go back to Ireland.

5813. Will you proceed with the statement of any further objections which occur to you to the proposal to do away with the law of removal?—There is one other subject which presses very heavily indeed upon the ratepayers, and especially upon the county of Lancaster. I have acted for many years as agent to the clerk of the peace, attending all pauper lunatics. We have at the present time a great many lunatics chargeable to the county of Lancaster, who would, if they were sane, be removable to Ireland, but being insane, we have no power to remove them, and they having no settlement, become a charge upon the county. I know many cases of that sort at the present time; they are supported by the county, being natives of Ireland.

5814. Is there any other objection?—I am not aware of anything else, except referring again to the class of persons who generally are the subjects of removal from us. I find that they are not persons who would, if they remained in England, be likely to earn their own livelihood, and that they are also a class of persons who are always more forward to claim relief; they have less independence of character about them than the English paupers generally.

5815. Are you of opinion that the power of removal, as regards the Irish, is a valuable check in itself?—I think so. I am quite convinced that the test of the workhouse with us is no test.

5816. In your opinion could it be made so, consistently with public feeling?—I think not, unless we inflicted great hardship on our own inmates, or made a great distinction in the treatment, which I think the ratepayers would not like to do.

5817. Would either branch of that alternative be practicable?—I think neither.

5818. Would it be practicable to introduce so strict a system with regard to the English as would be sufficient, when applied to the Irish, to check them?—I think

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I think it would not be considered by the English ratepayers in our union as a proper mode of treating our own poor, if we made our regulations in the workhouse so stringent as to be any test at all to the Irish paupers.

5819. What do you think of the practicability of introducing a distinction in the treatment of English paupers and Irish paupers, either by means of a separate workhouse, or by different treatment in the same workhouse, or in any other way?—I do not think it would be palatable at all to our ratepayers that we should have two modes of treatment.

5820. Do you think it would be likely to give rise to frequent complaints among the Irish themselves?—I have no doubt of it.

5821. Then I understand you to be of opinion that the power of removal could not be safely dispensed with?—I am.

5822. Will you tell the Committee whether you can suggest any amendment in the law of removal, supposing that law itself to be retained?—I can see no objection at all to the present law of removal, nor can I offer any suggestion for its improvement, except that we might have some penalties imposed on parties who afford facilities for the return of Irish paupers; if that could be brought about I think it would be a very desirable thing.

5823. You know that there are in the 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66, certain provisions with regard to officers in this country, rendering it penal in them to assist persons to go into other unions with the view of their becoming chargeable on those other unions?—I do.

5824. Is it something analogous to that which you are contemplating?—Yes; I think that some enactment of that kind would be salutary.

5825. You are aware that at present it requires a five years' residence in the same parish to obtain the status of irremovability?—We treat the Irish exactly in the same way, as to their removal, as we do our English paupers; namely, if they have remained with us five years, we consider them exempt from removal.

5826. Do you mean supposing they come back to you again?—No.

5827. That is to say, you construe the Act as applicable to Irish as well as to English?—Precisely.

5828. What do you think of this proposition which has been suggested here, that five years is an unnecessarily long period; it has been suggested that you might take three years, or two years, and that that would be sufficient; what do you say to that?—I have not considered that point.

5829. That an industrial residence of three years, or two years, should render a person irremovable?—It is certainly only matter of degree; it cannot be any matter of principle, and perhaps to three years there would not be any very great objection.

5830. I am sure you will agree that the law ought not to be one whit harsher than is necessary for the purpose of accomplishing the object?—Most certainly.

5831. Bearing that in mind, have you formed an opinion whether a residence of three years might not be sufficient, and answer the same purpose, in fact, as a residence of five years?—I do not, on the instant, see any objection to it.

5832. You have not, perhaps, considered that matter?—I have not.

5833. What do you say to the proposition which has also been made here, to give to a five years' residence the effect of settlement, and not merely that of rendering a person irremovable; so that if after residing five years, say in Liverpool, a party came to reside in your union, he should be, nevertheless, settled in Liverpool, by virtue of that five years' residence?—I think that the great difficulty would be in obtaining a satisfactory amount of evidence of five years' residence, judging from the class of persons that have generally fallen under my notice.

5834. Is not that a difficulty which you have to deal with now?—A very great difficulty; but still the alternative is not quite so important in removing them to Ireland, as in removing them to one of our own parishes, and incurring the risk of appeal, and that sort of thing, which we should have continually.

5835. Perhaps, too, you are contemplating this further difficulty, that whereas at present, in almost all cases, you look to the last five years; you might have then to run back for 20 years, in order to ascertain whether a settlement had been gained by residence 20 years before?—Exactly.

5836. Would not that be a circumstance to be considered?—Most certainly; and it would be a matter of very great difficulty indeed, probably with the Irish generally, for they are a very migratory class, and very seldom remain long in a place.

5837. Is

5837. Is there any further suggestion which you can make to us with reference to the subject of our inquiry, or any further information which you can give us?—I think not. A matter did occur to me in passing, whether anything might be done in the way of alleviating the condition of the poor by their remaining in this country and obtaining payment from Ireland; but then of course it must be a national relief fund, there being no law of settlement there. I do not know how far that might be practicable.

5838. You mean that a party should be irremovable from this country, but that the union or parish relieving him should have a claim upon Ireland, or some part of Ireland, for repayment?—Yes; that is a thing which I have never matured in my consideration, but it has occurred to me. It appears to me to be the only thing, save the infliction of fines and penalties on parties assisting in the return of paupers, or making the treatment in Ireland equal to what it is in England. I think if they gave out-door relief in Ireland, and if the workhouse system were as good there as it is with us, we should not have the same number with us as we have now.

5839. Then are you of opinion that so long as the two systems are so dissimilar as they are, the power of removal cannot be safely taken away?—I am strongly of that opinion.

5840. And you express an opinion that you could not render your system in England so much more strict as to bring the paupers in England upon the same footing as those in Ireland?—That is my opinion.

5841. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to the statement which you made in answer to the Chairman, as to persons having been sent back from Ireland, have you the particulars of any case of the kind?—I do not think I have.

5842. Can you state from what port in Ireland they were sent back?—There is one very recent case which I can obtain; I do not remember it now; it was narrated to me by the relieving officer within the last fortnight.

5843. It was not mentioned to you directly by the person who had been sent to Liverpool, but through a third party?—By the relieving officer, to whom it was narrated.

5844. In point of fact, then, you are not able to mention the name of any particular place or port in Ireland from which they have been sent?—No.

5845. Can you give the Committee any notion how often you have heard of such cases?—Perhaps three or four times in the year I may have heard of them; it is merely, of course, a vague guess.

5846. You stated to the Chairman that the great majority of the persons whom you remove to Ireland are either vagrants or women with their families, who have been deserted by their husbands?—Yes; women and their children; there are very few persons who appear to me able-bodied and willing to get their living who apply to us for relief.

5847. With reference to the cases of desertion, can you state whether the parochial authorities in your union or in the neighbourhood make any exertions to enforce the law against a husband who deserts his wife and children?—Very seldom, unless we know with certainty where he can be found; then a warrant would be granted, and the man would be apprehended.

5848. There is probably an apprehension entertained as to the expense of proceedings against husbands for desertion?—Yes, sometimes; and especially when the mode of removing the families can be adopted with much greater facility.

5849. You prefer the removal of the family to the prosecution of the husband, as a readier mode?—Yes; we are of opinion that the statement made by the wife as to the absence of her husband is very often untrue, as to whether she has really a husband at all, or whether he accompanied her to England, or on what errand he has gone into the country, and especially as to where he can be found in the country; it is very seldom that they can state themselves where the men have gone to; "They are gone up the country" is the general phrase.

5850. Are you of opinion that this offence of desertion is, however, a common one?—Desertion, or alleged desertion, certainly is common; it is very seldom that we actually know that the husband or father is absent, because we never saw him; it is only the statement which we receive from the wife, or the alleged wife, when she applies.

5851. Do you think it desirable that the law, which makes a man punishable

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for the desertion of his wife and family, should, as far as possible, be strictly enforced?—Yes, I think so.

5852. Do you conceive that the punishment of the husband would be a more effectual check upon the commission of that offence than the sending the wife and children to another country?—Not with respect to Irish paupers, because we do not consider them as stationary residents with us; perhaps they may be only a week or a few days before they apply to us; I have known them apply the very day after coming to England.

5853. With reference to those whom you state to be the great majority of the Irish paupers removed from the West Derby Union, would not a very much shorter period of residence taken as a test of removability suffice for relieving the ratepayers of the West Derby Union from the charge of their maintenance?—Yes, I think it would. As I have before said, I see no objection to the time of residence being reduced to three years. We should find very few indeed who would obtain a constant residence in one parish for three years.

5854. In point of fact, if you had the means by law of removing from the union persons who came there either to seek parochial relief, or to seek subsistence by begging or otherwise, without lawful employment, would that relieve you of a very large proportion of the Irish paupers whom you now remove to Ireland?—I think we should have great difficulty in discriminating between the classes. Nearly all the male sex would allege that they came in search of work; the others would not. We are often told that they come to England to see what they can get.

5855. Is not the fact of having been employed at wages in the union a fact easy of ascertainment by inquiry?—That might be done; but we have very few cases indeed of removal where the parties have ever been employed at all upon wages.

5856. Then would not the suggestion which I have made to you effectually relieve the union of the greater portion of those of whose presence you complain? If the power were restricted to a right to remove those who had not been in employment or earning their living by regular wages or trade, would not that suffice?—You would then make a distinction between the English and the Irish as to their residence and employment, requiring only that they should be employed a certain time; I scarcely see the bearing of the question.

5857. The subject of inquiry before this Committee is as to the removal of the Irish poor from England?—In order to understand your inquiries, I want to know whether you propose to make any difference as to the residence and employment between the English and the Irish, because we have of course now the power to remove the Irish to Ireland if they have not been resident five years, without inquiring into the subject of employment; and I understand your question to be whether, in case they could prove that they were employed, there should be a further exemption from removal in addition to the five years' exemption. I think it would not alter our case very much by making the matter of employment an exemption from removal, because we have so few parties of that description.

5858. Mr. *Ingham.*] You would have no objection to it, as I understand?—I see no objection to it.

5859. It would not throw much additional burthen upon your parish, and you think there would be no objection to it?—I think not, because the cases would be so few of persons having been employed any considerable time who were the subjects of removal.

5860. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Are you aware that a large proportion of the paupers who are sent from Liverpool to Ireland come from rural districts in Ireland?—I think they do; I think the county of Mayo is the most prolific county we have.

5861. To what places are the paupers chiefly sent from your union?—They are sent to that port most adjacent to the place where they wish to go themselves.

5862. In point of fact, are a large proportion sent to Dublin?—A great many of them are sent to Dublin.

5863. With reference to an answer which you have already made, stating that you see no objection to the present law, do you think it just that those paupers should be sent to Dublin whom you desire to remove from the West Derby Union?—Yes, if Dublin is the nearest port to the place where they wish to go themselves, and they are sent to Ireland at all.

5864. Are

5864. Are you aware that the union authorities in Dublin have no power to remove them from the Dublin Union, or to assist them in going elsewhere?—I was not aware of that.

5865. If it be the case that there is no power of removal in Ireland, do you think it can be just that the whole of the paupers removed from Liverpool should be sent to six or seven Irish ports?—It is not just to those ports, certainly, if they have no interest in the locality to which the paupers are sent.

5866. You stated that an objection occurred to you to giving a right of settlement, instead of a mere right of irremovability, to Irish persons who had been five years in any parish in England, inasmuch as expense and difficulty would arise there from appeals?—I think there would be great difficulty in proving a residence, owing to the very changeable nature of the Irish as to their residence.

5867. In other words, the authorities of those places to which they might so be removed would have a right to object to the removal, on the ground of any error or mistake in the proceeding?—Precisely.

5868. As to the statement which you made with reference to lunatics, have you at any time become aware that lunatic paupers have been brought from Ireland to England, and have so become a charge upon the ratepayers in England?—I cannot say that I remember any case where they have been lunatics on their landing.

5869. So that these lunatics are persons who have become lunatics in England?—I have heard that persons intending to emigrate have been left by their relations as lunatics, and that they either were so on their landing, or became so during the short time they were in Liverpool. They have been deserted by their relations, who have gone to a foreign country.

5870. Have you any particulars as to cases of that kind?—Not with me; but I have several cases which were taken from the lips of the parties themselves.

5871. From the lips of the lunatics who had been left?—Yes.

5872. Was any inquiry instituted, so as to corroborate or establish those cases?—No; it is a very difficult thing. The only relations which they have, have left the country; in most cases they have gone, and there is no power of corroboration.

5873. *Chairman.*] What becomes of those lunatics; do they go to the Lancaster Asylum?—They are taken to the county asylum, and are maintained at the expense of the county.

5874. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Can you state what number of such cases have fallen under your observation?—I dare say that I could name perhaps six or eight at the present time who are being supported in the district for which I act, which is only a portion of the county of Lancaster.

5875. At the same time, it is that portion of the county which would be most likely to receive such cases?—It is.

5876. Mr. *Liddell.*] That does not include the town or parish of Liverpool?—No; the parish of Liverpool would suffer to a much greater extent than we do, from being the port, and immediately surrounding the docks.

5877. *Chairman.*] Is not that altogether an exclusive jurisdiction?—It is.

5878. Supposing such a case happened in Liverpool, what would become of the party?—Those cases would also come under my notice, because they are kept at the expense of the county; and some of those cases are those which I refer to, where they have been left by their relations.

5879. You see cases where the parties have been left in Liverpool as well as in West Derby?—Yes, and in the surrounding unions. Acting as agent for the clerks of the peace, I attend to all the cases in that part of the county.

5880. Is that in your character as clerk to the magistrates?—No, it is quite a distinct duty; the duty of the clerk of the peace is to attend to all cases of chargeability upon the county, and either by himself or by his agent he attends the magistrate when the application is made for an order, and unless he can show cause why the order should not be made, the order is made upon the county.

5881. Have you for some time acted as such agent?—I have, for 10 years.

5882. Mr. *Liddell.*] A suggestion was made to you as to whether an industrial residence of five years might not be permitted to give a man the right of settlement, as well as to relieve him from the power of removal?—Yes.

5883. As I understand, you do not object to it in principle, that a five years' industrial residence should give a man the right of settlement?—No, supposing it

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is extended to English paupers as well as Irish; I do not see why an exception should be made with the Irish.

5884. As far as the principle of that measure of humanity goes, you do not object to it?—No, except so far as I have named, that the difficulty would be in proving residence.

5885. You cite the difficulty in obtaining satisfactory evidence of such industrial residence?—Yes.

5886. Particularly in respect of the Irish?—Particularly so.

5887. On account of their vagrant habits?—Yes.

5888. These difficulties would probably be very considerable at first, if such a relaxation of the law were made?—Yes.

5889. But might they not be found to diminish in practice if the attention of the authorities were more carefully and regularly directed to the subject?—Undoubtedly they would, because the parochial officers, being aware of their liability, would then pay more attention to the residence of every person in their parish; for that reason there would be a better check against the residence.

5890. Supposing such a relaxation of the law were to be made, the result would seem to be that a great many of such cases could not be substantiated at the present time, on account of the want of sufficient or satisfactory evidence?—Yes, that is my opinion.

5891. But in such cases the parties would be no worse off than they are at present?—No, certainly not.

5892. And all those who could satisfactorily show a five years' industrial residence would be better off, because they would acquire the right of settlement?—Yes.

5893. So that the degree of relief to this class of labourers in general would be greater or less, but in no case could they be worse off from such a change?—They could not be worse off, certainly.

5894. They would only be liable to the same law that they are liable to at present?—Yes; they would be removed from parish to parish, instead of from country to country.

5895. But in cases where the industrial residence could be satisfactorily made out, they would be so far better off that they would acquire the right of settlement?—Precisely.

5896. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Would not the proof of the residence tend to create litigation?—I have observed that it would do so; but the chances of proving the fact would increase every year, for the reasons which I have before stated, that greater vigilance would be used by the officers in ascertaining the nature of the residence of each of the parties likely to become chargeable.

5897. Supposing a man resided in Manchester for a couple of years, and removed from there to Bury, and resided two or three years there, and removed to Liverpool, and was three or four years there, and went back to Manchester again, and was a couple of years there, and during the whole of that period he received no relief, in what way could the parochial authorities connected with the poor prove the whole of these matters extending over so many years?—It would only be for the officers of the respective parishes to keep a vigilant eye on the persons in their respective parishes, and especially those whom they considered likely to become subjects of parochial relief; there would be no other way of testing the accuracy of the statements which they might make.

5898. Do parish officers now keep a look-out upon all parties coming into a town?—I should think in large parishes, it is almost a matter of impracticability or impossibility; they may in small rural townships or places, but I think not in large places.

5899. Then so far as regards Manchester, Liverpool, and any town with 10,000 inhabitants, the difficulty would be such as to make it almost impracticable to find out the fact?—I think it would.

5900. No form of vigilance on the part of parochial officers could possibly overcome it?—It would require a very great increase to the present staff of officers in townships to exercise that vigilance with any utility.

5901. Mr. *Liddell.*] Could no vigilance on the part of parish officers ascertain a continuous industrial residence of five years?—Yes; in case the head of the family was employed during the whole of those five years, and could state his employer, of course it might be proved.

5902. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Is the character of the English labourers, and of labourers in general, improved by the amalgamation with the Irish that come over; are they raised in moral standing at all by the number of Irish?—I am not able to form an opinion upon that; I have not judged of the effect of their intercourse with the English.

5903. You have no means of judging?—No.

5904. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you sent many paupers to Ireland from your union during the last year?—I can give you the correct number for the last three years: for the year ending March 1852, we removed 400; for the year 1853, 182; and for the year 1854, 212; making a total of 794 in the three years.

5905. Have you the numbers sent in 1847 and 1848?—I have not.

5906. How far does your account go back?—It only goes back for those three years.

5907. You said, I think, that a great number of paupers stated to you that they would rather die than go back to Ireland?—Yes; I have heard that repeatedly.

5908. Of the 212 sent over in the year ending March 1854, were there any who were anxious or willing to go back to Ireland?—Some were desirous of going back.

5909. What proportion should you say?—I should think not more than one in ten.

5910. Do you know Mr. Evans, of Liverpool?—Yes; he is the pass-officer.

5911. You would take him to be a very good authority as to the feeling of those paupers who come before you, and their willingness to go back or to remain, would you not?—He is very able to judge; he has great experience.

5912. If Mr. Evans stated, that out of 18,000 sent from Liverpool within three years, two-thirds were really willing and anxious to go to Ireland, would you believe it?—Certainly.

5913. Does not that, in some degree, clash with your assertion?—It does, certainly.

5914. You have less knowledge of the Irish paupers, I should say, than Mr. Evans?—I have less knowledge of their personal character, and less intercourse with them than Mr. Evans, certainly.

5915. Or their wish to remain or to leave the country?—The only opportunity I have of judging is when they are brought before the magistrates, when I am acting as magistrates' clerk, when the questions are put to them. Mr. Evans of course has intercourse with them in giving them relief, and much more to do with them than I have.

5916. In case of an English pauper being chargeable to your parish who has not obtained a settlement, nor lived there long enough to effect a bar to removal, how do you deal with him; do you remove him?—Certainly.

5917. Do you remove him in all cases?—In all cases.

5918. Does it never happen that you charge his expense to another union and allow him to remain?—We have in the present year a great many that we call non-settled paupers, whom we relieve in our own union and obtain repayment from other unions.

5919. Is that a common practice?—It has been.

5920. Do you find it more convenient?—We find it a greater relief to the poor.

5921. It does not entail the same amount of hardship upon the pauper?—Certainly not.

5922. I think you said that the greatest number at the present moment come from Mayo?—I think they do; I am not quite certain of that; I have not made any calculation.

5923. Is the number from Mayo less at the present time than it was some two or three years since?—I cannot state that.

5924. What is your impression?—It is merely from memory that I can state anything of the kind; I have given the numbers for the three years, and I cannot state the proportion.

5925. Those are persons sent back. By your statement, which I suppose is perfectly correct, the numbers sent back are 212 for the year ending 1854, and 400 for the year ending 1852?—Yes.

5926. I suppose you may calculate that the population of Mayo has very much diminished by emigration to other countries, so that it is not likely that in future you will have as many from that part as before?—No, I should say not.

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5927. Mr. *Ingham.*] You state that many of the women who apply for relief are persons who allege that their husbands have deserted them?—Yes.

5928. In the case of Irish paupers, is not there generally a great deal of family affection between them when living as husbands and wives?—I think so; I know nothing to the contrary.

5929. Do you think it probable that a great number would really desert their wives from any feeling of unkindness; and do you not think it more probable that it is a fictitious story?—Sometimes; and in other cases I think it arises in this way: that the man would bring his wife and children to England; immediately he reached Liverpool, or the neighbourhood, he would leave there and go up into the country, during the time of harvest, or any other time, and earn his money and come back, and the same man would apply to us for a pass when he had plenty of money.

5930. It is not desertion from unkindness?—No; it is a systematic mode of obtaining money.

5931. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you traced any of those what you call systematic cases?—We have had many cases where men have applied, and we have discovered that they had property upon them sufficient to pay for their return to Ireland.

5932. Have you any reason to believe that those people have deserted their families when they have been passed back by you?—Some of the parties have applied themselves with their wives; I am not now speaking of parties who have deserted their wives, but of those who have been up the country and obtained money, and have actually applied for a pass back to Ireland when they had sufficient money in their pocket to pay for it themselves.

5933. Mr. *Liddell.*] You mean to say that it is a common practice with the Irish poor in Liverpool to leave their wives and children chargeable on Liverpool, in order that they themselves may go up the country to get work?—It is a very common practice.

5934. And when they have worked a certain number of months, in harvest-time more particularly, and acquired a certain amount of money, they return, having had the advantage of their wives and children being maintained during that interval by the funds of Liverpool?—Yes.

5935. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have many cases of that sort come under your knowledge?—Not a great many; very few of the men themselves ever come to us again. The statement which I have before me shows that of 794 cases, 512 were females.

5936. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is it the practice in the West Derby Union to administer relief by way of loan?—Sometimes, where we think there is a chance of the husband being in work and returning.

5937. Has it been applied, as far as you know, to the cases of the families of Irishmen who have gone in search of work?—Never, to my knowledge.

5938. Do you think that it might, to some extent, meet *bonâ fide* cases?—I think it would never be applicable; we should, in the first place, never be able to trace their masters, and if we did, when we had traced them they would have no money in their hands belonging to the parties employed, and therefore we should have no power to recover.

5939. But you do apply it to cases of English?—Yes, principally sailors, where they have wages due to them from their employers, the merchants; we often administer relief, by way of loan, to their families, and obtain repayment from the merchant; but it would be quite impracticable with the Irish.

5940. Are you able to give to the Committee returns of the cost of removals incurred in each year?—Yes.

5941. For how many years?—Three years, ending March last.

5942. Is the return which you are about to deliver in accompanied by a statement of the cost of removals?—Yes.

5943. Can you state during those years what have been the rates in the West Derby Union; is it a union including several parishes?—Yes; it includes 22 parishes.

5944. Do the rates vary?—Very much; they vary from 2 *s.* 6 *d.* in the pound to 1 *s.* in the pound.

5945. Have the rates for the last year been as high as 2 *s.* 6 *d.* in the pound in any one parish?—I think in the largest and most populous township, Toxteth Park,

Park, they were 2*s.*; I am not quite certain of the amount; certainly as much, if not more.

5946. *Chairman.*] Do you know anything yourself of the case of a person named Bridget Farrell, which has been mentioned here?—I do not.

5947. With regard to a person named John Cotter, as to which there was a specific imputation against your union, I believe you made a communication on the subject to Mr. Barnett, your relieving officer?—Yes.

5948. And he furnished a letter, which you forwarded to me, I believe?—I did.

5949. Mr. O'Shaughnessy said that John Cotter had made the statement to him?—Yes; that is one of the cases of parties who have returned being furnished with the means of returning by the parochial authorities.

5950. How do you know that?—From Mr. Barnett, the relieving officer.

5951. You mean that Mr. Barnett told you so?—Yes; that the party applying again to him for relief gave him the particulars of the person from whom he received the means of getting back to England; I believe he even obtained the names; he returned again to England.

5952. Mr. *Maguire.*] When?—I think about three weeks ago.

5953. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Do you think it desirable to remove Irish paupers who really come to seek employment at a place like Liverpool, supposing they accidentally have occasion for relief?—I think they would never be removed.

5954. Have you any opinion as to the proportion of Irish paupers removable who have been removed, as compared with those who have obtained relief and being removable have not been removed, during the period that you have spoken of?—No, I have no idea; I can only speak generally, that none of the guardians would wish, and the magistrates, I am sure, would not allow of any person being removed if they thought there was a probability of his remaining here and obtaining a livelihood by labour.

5955. Mr. *J. Ball.*] But, nevertheless, you do remove from the West Derby Union people who have been in employment, and who have become disabled by accident or sickness?—I cannot tax my memory with a single case.

5956. Have you seen the evidence given before this Committee on that subject?—I have not.

5957. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Do the guardians, in point of fact, generally speaking, recognise the moral obligation or claim of parties who, though they may be Irish, and may be removable, have spent their time and industry in the place?—Most certainly; quite as much as they do with respect to the English paupers.

5958. Then is it the case that the removal is rather the exception than the rule with reference to paupers removable?—Of those who have obtained their own livelihood, most certainly it is the exception.

5959. Mr. *J. Ball.*] What amount of workhouse accommodation have you in the West Derby Union?—For about 800.

5960. The population being 153,000?—Yes.

5961. Is the workhouse usually full?—No, very seldom quite full; we have about 600, I think, upon the average. We are now enlarging the workhouse, and shall have greater facility.

5962. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] The removal is carried on entirely by the parish officers, I understand you?—By the union officer; we have an officer appointed for the special purpose of removing Irish and lunatics who become chargeable.

5963. He proceeds without any instructions, except generally from the guardians?—Yes; he acts under the direction of the relieving officers who administer the relief; he is only the officer who attends to the removal.

5964. What check is there upon the officers who administer the relief?—A weekly examination of their accounts.

5965. Do they make weekly returns of the number?—Yes.

5966. Is any account of that kept?—Yes.

5967. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Is the officer, who in point of fact removes the paupers, a person likely to recognise at all the moral obligations or claims of the parties?—It would not rest with his discretion, it would be with the relieving officers who give them in charge to him; the person actually removing does nothing else; but the relieving officers, from whom they receive their relief, probably would do it as much as the guardians.

5968. Do the guardians make any inquiry as to the circumstances under which removals, generally speaking, have been effected?—Always.

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5969. Have you known instances of the guardians reprimanding officers who have disregarded the circumstances of a pauper who may have been removed, supposing him to have spent several years in Liverpool?—No; I have known them frequently reprimand the officers for not having carried out the law by removing parties who have come repeatedly for relief, but never for having exercised it too rigidly.

5970. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] You have given an opinion that you think that the period of five years, entitling to irremovability, might safely be reduced to three?—I think it might; it is only a matter of degree.

5971. What do you think would be the effect if the area of residence were made the union instead of the parish?—I do not think it would affect us very much; the union now bearing, as a common fund, the expense of these removals, would then bear the expense of maintenance.

5972. Would it decrease the number of people removable?—I think not much.

5973. Do not the poor change much from parish to parish?—They go from parish to parish, it is true, and that would make a difference.

5974. Do they change frequently from parish to parish?—Yes, more frequently from street to street in our own parishes; they very seldom remain long in one house. We have peculiar streets called Irish streets, and where none but Irish dwell, but they are very seldom in the same house long together.

5975. *Chairman.*] Following up the question of the Honourable Baronet, yours is a union, and not a single parish?—Yes.

5976. Do you see any objection to having the law altered in this manner, that a party who had resided for three years in the same union should become irremovable?—We should of course have much fewer removals than we have now. The number of exemptions from removal would be greater, for the reasons which the Honourable Baronet has stated, namely, that they would go from parish to parish, and therefore that exemption from removal would be increased if the union was made the area instead of the parish.

5977. Should you see any serious objection to that alteration of the law?—There would be that objection, I think.

5978. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Do you think that the restriction would still be sufficient to prevent the abuses in the immigration of Irish paupers which are complained of as regards Liverpool?—I think not; it would not reach the case at all so long as the system of relief in the two countries is so very dissimilar.

5979. Supposing an Irish person to have spent five years in different parishes within your union, does it not appear to you that that person might be supposed to have obtained a sufficient claim for relief upon the union?—Perhaps he might.

5980. *Chairman.*] You know a good many unions in this country, though yours perhaps is not one of them, where a great number of parishes are combined?—Yes.

5981. Do you not know that in Lincolnshire there are some with 60 or 70?—Yes; and in Cheshire there are some, I believe, as high as 80.

5982. Would it not make a very considerable difference as to the liability of a poor man to removal, whether the union were the area of the residence to be looked to or the parish?—A very great difference, and in none more so than our own, because the townships in which there are most Irish in our own union are those immediately surrounding Liverpool, and each adjoining the other; they go over the boundary without any apparent knowledge themselves that they are doing so; therefore the difference would be very great between making a parochial boundary and a union boundary.

5983. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Still would not five years' residence within the union tend to prevent the abuses from occasional emigration from Ireland?—Most certainly it would, but it would make a very great difference to the parties who would be removed.

5984. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Would not five years' residence within the union be a fair industrial test?—Yes, if we could prove the industrial residence; but I think that that would be very difficult.

5985. Has not it to be proved by the party?—We must disprove it, which would be very difficult.

5986. You have the records of your relieving officers of the parties being relieved?—Yes, but it must be accompanied by a proof of residence; we could prove

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prove residence as far as relief was concerned, but we should have no means of disproving their statements of residence.

5987. *Chairman.*] Take the case of the parish of Liverpool; if a person has resided in 20 different streets there, and yet has been five years in the same parish without receiving relief, does he not become irremovable from the parish of Liverpool?—Most certainly.

5988. Therefore at present the law imposes a considerable practical difficulty?—It does; it is a very difficult thing to meet the allegation that they have had a five years' residence, and especially when they are not themselves ratepayers, but only lodgers, as the majority of these poor Irish are; if they were ratepayers, of course the books would test the accuracy of their statement; being only lodgers, there is nothing to do it.

5989. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] To what class of houses does the rate descend in the West Derby Union; what is the lowest rated house?—Every house is rated, but the Small Tenement Act is in operation in some of the townships, whereby the landlords pay instead of the tenants; it descends to 6 *l.*

5990. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is the power of excusing the occupiers, where the Act is not in force, exercised?—Yes, to a very great extent, by the magistrates in petty sessions, by the consent of the overseers.

5991. Mr. *Ingham.*] With respect to the party whose interest it would be, under such a state of the law as has been suggested, to prove that an Irish pauper had not received relief during the requisite time, might not the following course be adopted, namely, that on the 1st of May in every year a certificate should be given to him by the overseer to that effect, and setting forth where he was living at the date of the certificate, and at the end of five years he would have all those certificates to produce, to show that no relief had been given to him?—Yes; that might do prospectively.

5992. And you think in that case it would be a fair thing to give the party the benefit of a five years' residence if he was living in the union and received no relief?—Yes.

5993. Although that might not confer a settlement, it might yet confer irremovability?—Yes; that might be done certainly.

Mr. *Matthew M'Nerney,* called in; and Examined.

Mr. *M. M'Nerney.*

5994. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are a Relieving Officer at Birkenhead?—I am.

5995. That is on the other side of the Mersey from Liverpool?—Yes.

5996. Forming part of the port of the Mersey?—Yes; on the side directly opposite to where Mr. Cleaver is.

5997. What union is Birkenhead in?—Wirral.

5998. Is it in what is called the Commercial District of the Wirral Union?—It is.

5999. How long have you held your present situation of relieving officer?—Since 1847.

6000. Did you hold it in 1847, during the time of the famine?—At the latter end of 1847 I was appointed.

6001. Is this a table which is made out by yourself?—It is.

6002. This, I observe, is for the year ending March 1854?—It is.

6003. Can you give us the numbers of the Irish paupers upon your rates in that year, as compared with those of England and other countries?—Yes; the total of Irish, for the year ending March 1854, was 1,441 individuals, or 515 cases.

6004. What do you mean by cases?—Families.

6005. What was the number of English during the same period?—One thousand and ninety, or 434 families.

6006. The number of Scotch?—Thirty-eight, being 13 cases.

6007. The foreigners?—Sixteen, being four cases.

6008. Is this for Birkenhead alone?—No; I could not give one without giving the whole district; it comprises five townships, the townships being similarly situated, and anything applying to one applies to another.

6009. Will you give their names?—Birkenhead, Tanmere, Liscard, Poulton-cum-Seacombe, and Wallasey.

6010. Do they form the commercial district of the Wirral Union?—They do.

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6011. What has been the expense for the year?—For English it was 1,553 *l.* 17 *s.* 11 *d.*; Irish, 1,005 *l.* 19 *s.* 6½ *d.*; Scotch, 64 *l.* 17 *s.* 10 *d.*; foreigners, 14 *l.* 3 *s.* 8 *d.*

6012. Have you the population of English, Irish, Scotch, and foreigners at that time?—I have.

6013. What is the English population of this commercial district; this is according to the census of 1851, I suppose?—Yes. The English population in 1851 was 31,624.

6014. What is the number of the paupers?—The English paupers were 1,090.

6015. That is one in how many?—One in every 29 of the English population.

6016. What is the Irish population?—The population is 6,078; the paupers are 1,441, being a proportion of 1 in 4 ¼.

6017. What is the Scotch population?—One thousand four hundred and forty-one; the paupers 38, being a proportion of 1 in 38.

6018. I believe you have divided the table into able-bodied, not able-bodied, and so on?—Yes.

6019. And you can vouch yourself for the accuracy of this table?—It is perfectly correct, I believe.

6020. It was made out under your own superintendence?—I have made it with my own hands.

6021. What are the classes of the Irish who are in Birkenhead chiefly; how do you describe them?—They are composed of two classes generally. There is one that may be called an industrious class, and the other of low vagrant habits.

6022. Have you any means of distinguishing the numbers of those two classes?—I have attempted as nearly as possible to make some distinction, and I have done it as minutely and as particularly as I possibly could.

6023. What is the result?—I have divided as nearly as possible the labouring and industrial class of persons into persons who take houses in their own right, who have a tenancy of their own, taken from a landlord, and I have then taken the other class, as those who take sublettings, where a house has been let to one individual and it is sub-let to another.

6024. Have you any table showing that?—I have a table here; I could not take the whole district, but I have taken a few streets in Birkenhead, which may be called a kind of fair representation, I think, of the Irish population in it.

6025. How many streets have you taken?—I have taken five streets.

6026. Is that a part of the town where the Irish are found in great numbers?—It is where the Irish locate.

6027. Have you any particulars which you wish to state to this Committee with regard to those?—The number of houses that I have taken is 126, and they are sub-let again into 185.

6028. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] There being more than one family in the same tenement?—Yes, sometimes three, and in some more. Then I have divided it also into males and females, to show the nature of the occupancy. In those 126 houses there are 209 adult males, the members of the family belonging to the person who takes the house from the landlord, 185 adult females, 340 children; giving a a total of 734 persons in the 126 houses. These persons have taken in as lodgers 171 males, 199 females, 283 children, or 653 persons as lodgers. That last class of persons I conceive to be the vagrant class, and I think it is a very fair representation, from the result of my own judgment on the experience which I have had.

6029. *Chairman.*] Whom do you comprehend under the term "vagrant class"?—They are a class of persons who do not follow any distinct employment, who are not living exactly by labour.

6030. What do they do?—There is a peculiarity in the township of Birkenhead which gives a facility for it; it may be called labour in one sense, but it is, in fact, only an apology for it. There are cockle banks, and shell-fish are got in the neighbourhood about the shore; the women and children collect these, and the husbands remain at home very often doing nothing, but sometimes, when they return, selling them as an excuse for going about the town just to commit small thefts and begging, and so on; it is an excuse by which they cannot be taken up. I may say that the most of these families I know live upon that, or getting grit or sand, as they call it, or rubbing stones, and going about selling it, both in Liverpool and in Birkenhead.

6031. Mr. *Liddell.*] Do they go round the neighbouring country districts as well as the town?—They go round the neighbouring country.

6032. *Chairman.*] Are those persons whom you describe as having no industrial residence or occupation?—Yes.

6033. In those five streets, how many do you say there were?—Six hundred and fifty-three persons.

6034. Colonel *Blair.*] Their usual residence is in Birkenhead?—It is.

6035. *Chairman.*] What was the number of the industrial class?—Seven hundred and thirty-four, which gives a total of the whole persons in the houses of 1,837.

6036. Mr. *Liddell.*] You draw, then, a distinction between these two classes of the householders, as it were, and the casual lodgers?—Yes, that is my object.

6037. *Chairman.* During the last year how many persons of the vagrant class, which you have now described, were relieved?—I think those would come, in a great measure, under that class of persons which might be termed removable.

6038. It appears that during the last year there were 1,441 persons, whom you describe as paupers?—Yes.

6039. That is, I suppose, those who were relieved out of the poor-rates?—Actually in receipt of relief during that year.

6040. How many of those were offered the workhouse?—I could not exactly say, but the offers of the workhouse I can tell you for the year; very few of these would be offered the workhouse, because they were subjects for relief outside, but the number of Irish persons who have been offered the workhouse during the last 12 months is 674.

6041. Are they a portion of these 1,441?—No.

6042. Mr. *Liddell.*] They are in addition to the 1,441?—They are.

6043. *Chairman.*] How many were ordered to be removed to Ireland?—One hundred and six persons.

6044. Was the total number of those who became chargeable to the poor-rate the 1,441, together with the 674 and the 106, making altogether 2,221?—The 106 became chargeable, and those who were offered the workhouse; the distinction you will see at once, by taking from the number those who refused to accept of it.

6045. Do the 1,441 Irish paupers of whom you have spoken comprise those who have received relief outside the workhouse?—Yes.

6046. And they are limited to that?—They are limited to that alone.

6047. Besides that number were there any who went into the workhouse?—Fifty-six went into the workhouse.

6048. And 106, you say, were ordered to be removed to Ireland?—They were.

6049. Mr. *Ingham.*] Then the others to whom you offered the workhouse, and who did not go there, and did not receive relief, provided for themselves?—Yes.

6050. *Chairman.*] You are aware of the object of the inquiry of this Committee?—I am, partially.

6051. We want to obtain information from you as to the operation of the present law of removal of the Irish paupers from England. It has been suggested here that that law might be done away with; what do you think upon that subject?—I think that at present there is a vast deal of cruelty connected with it. I think the privilege might be extended very much.

6052. What occurs to you upon that subject?—I think that some fixed time for an actual residence in England should, at all events, put a stop to the possibility of a person being removed from it.

6053. What would you propose?—It would depend entirely upon the sphere to which it was extended, whether the residence would be confined simply to the spot on which the person was found, or extended to a much wider area.

6054. Supposing in the first place it were to be limited to the parish, which it is at present, what number of years should you say ought to render a person irremovable?—I should say two years.

6055. You think two years would be sufficient as a protection?—I do, as a protection to the poor.

6056. That is, two years of industrial residence?—Occupying a house, of whatever kind.

6057. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Either as tenant or as sub-tenant?—Not a sub-letting from a tenant.

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6058. *Chairman.*] But the occupier of a whole house?—Having taken the house from the landlord himself in his own right.

6059. You mean the occupation of the whole house by the party?—Yes.

6060. He being the tenant himself for a period of two years?—Yes.

6061. That is what you think would be a sufficient protection, that if a party had resided for two years in the parish without coming upon the poor-rates, and had during that time been the tenant of a house, that person should be exempt from removal?—I do.

6062. Do you take that generally, or would you specify any amount of rent?—Without reference to rent.

6063. That would be your proposition with regard to the residence, if it were to be limited to one parish?—Yes.

6064. Suppose the area were itself extended, and instead of having the parish, as it is at present by law, you had a larger area, what would you propose with respect to that?—I speak with regard simply to my own knowledge of the district in which I am.

6065. You are a person who have had a good deal of acquaintance with the poor law, and we want to know what your suggestions are; you have considered the subject, I dare say?—I have.

6066. You say that the present law might be altered considerably, and you have given us one suggestion; have you any further suggestions; do you think it advisable to extend the area beyond the parish; that is to say, if a person has resided for a certain time in the same union, for instance, do you think that that should render him irremovable?—I think that two years in the same union would be sufficient.

6067. That is to say, not two years in the same parish, but two years in the same union?—Yes.

6068. Occupying a house?—Occupying a house.

6069. Then you think that this alteration might be made in the law, that whereas it now requires five years' residence in the same parish, two years in the same union would do?—I do indeed.

6070. And that that would be a sufficient protection?—I think it would be quite a sufficient protection.

6071. Besides giving material relief to the parties who are now removed?—I think it would be a great relief to the poor.

6072. In your opinion would that be the best arrangement, upon the whole, which could be adopted?—I think it would; I think it would be better than anything which I have yet heard suggested.

6073. Colonel *Blair.*] Do you intend that system to apply to those who get their living in the way you mentioned some time ago?—I think it would exclude them from it; their description of living, I think, would always keep them from coming within that class.

6074. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Will you turn to the table which you have placed before the Committee? Will you explain to the Committee what the distinction is between the class included in the upper portion of it and those who are classed here as irremovable poor below?—Those in the upper portion are persons simply chargeable to the township in which they are resident, and the townships in union pay no portion; the relief is solely charged against that township where they are residing, and these persons are not relieved under any of the exceptional irremovable clauses; for instance, under sickness, which would make a man or his family chargeable to the common fund of the union, although he stood only in the same position as a removable pauper. Although he had not a five years' residence, it would be charged against the common fund of the union if it was the result of sickness, or one of a few other causes which are given where relief is chargeable against the common fund.

6075. Under the head of "irremovable poor," you have some classed here as able-bodied widows with their children under 16?—Yes.

6076. Some of whom are stated as not having a five years' residence?—Yes.

6077. How are they irremovable?—They are irremovable from one exception, that for 12 months after the death of the husband, if the husband has been residing with them, they are irremovable until the expiration of those 12 months.

6078. With regard to those who are classed as irremovable poor, not having a five years' residence, and relieved in consequence of their own sickness, is that relief given only during the period of sickness?—Only during the period of sickness;

ness; if they became chargeable afterwards they would be charged upon the township as removable.

6079. In point of fact, may not the same case appear here as relieved part of the time during sickness, and irremovable during that time, and afterwards coming in as chargeable to the township, being relieved after recovery from sickness?—No, it cannot, because it is one of the instructions which we have, not to classify a pauper twice; however he may become chargeable, he is never classified more than once during the six months.

6080. So that the 1,441 are 1,441 different cases?—Yes, distinctly and clearly, 1,441 persons.

6081. During six months?—Our books are made up every six months, and I have been careful in making out the two relief lists not to classify the same person a second time also during the 12 months; not to do it more than once.

6082. Was last year a year of much sickness amongst the poorer classes in the union?—Nothing very extraordinary.

6083. You have here rather a large number who appear to have been relieved in consequence of sickness?—It is almost the only class of relief that can be afforded outside the workhouse, therefore it makes a large number of persons upon my relief; the relief is in fact almost entirely to persons in consequence of sickness.

6084. At the same time there appear 370 cases of removable Irish poor who are chargeable to the township of Birkenhead, and therefore not relieved during sickness, or they would be classed under the head of irremovable poor?—Yes; there are a class of persons that are removable from many causes; for instance, in the case of a man who had not a five years' residence, and whose child died, he not having been in the receipt of relief previously to the death of the child, that would be a charge upon the township itself entirely, though it is almost, I may say, in consequence of sickness, yet it is relief charged upon the township, because it does not become a case of sickness, it not being chargeable until after the death.

6085. The 106 who were removed do not form any portion of those included in this table?—They are not included in this table.

6086. But had those 106, or most of them, been relieved by you before they were removed?—Some of them had been in the workhouse. Of course those removed had received relief to the amount perhaps of a trifling sum, in order to remove them.

6087. It is stated here that a large number, as many as 146 Irish vagrants, were relieved by you during that year?—Yes.

6088. Have you any instructions as to the removal of Irish vagrants who apply for relief?—No; these are a class of persons who only come for one night, vagrants and tramps, wayfarers and wanderers, not residents in the town, but just following their usual avocation, wandering from year to year through the country, looking for relief upon different parishes.

6089. They do not include people who have just arrived from Ireland?—No.

6090. Have you any returns in the union of people who have just arrived from Ireland seeking relief?—Yes; there are persons who become destitute immediately on their arrival; a good many who come very poor at first, and sickness overtakes them; and there is another class, also, who come for relief almost immediately on their coming into the township; that is the class of vagrants which I speak of.

6091. Are they included under the head of vagrants?—They are not counted. I do not count any person in these statistics who has not actually received relief; but of the class of persons who are removed, some would be chargeable.

6092. In the union of which you are the officer there has been a considerable amount of labour at times required in works connected with the port, has there not?—A vast deal.

6093. Has the demand for labour of that kind varied a good deal?—Very much.

6094. Do you attribute a considerable portion of the pauperism among the Irish there to the fact that people have come and got employment for a time in the construction of docks, or otherwise, and have been afterwards unable to get employment?—No doubt of it; a vast deal of pauperism has arisen from the fluctuating character of the employment.

6095. So that Birkenhead is, in that respect, rather different from most other places?—

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places?—It is; we have had almost every year a new set of persons of the labouring class.

6096. You made a suggestion as to the creating irremovability by two years' residence of persons who rent a house; are there not in Birkenhead considerable lodging-houses of a superior class for working people?—Not at this period.

6097. Were not such lodging-houses constructed at the time the new portion of Birkenhead was built?—No, not lodging-houses; there were very large cottages built for the labouring classes; but those were intended for the permanent occupiers; small tenements, where a man's family could locate without having to adopt the objectionable mode of going into lodgings.

6098. You are aware, however, that persons in some of the large towns of England have set up an improved class of lodging-houses, in which families can live quite separate from each other?—There are none with us.

6099. If such buildings were set up, do not you think that the same privilege which you propose to extend to people renting a cottage might fairly be extended to people living in separate rooms in a model lodging-house?—I should not like to say anything upon the subject, because I do not know it; I really do not know whether it would be desirable or not. I am afraid that the class of persons taking lodgings are wanting in that industrious habit which I should like to recognise in the amendment that I have suggested.

6100. In point of fact, do you find that in Birkenhead those are not people getting regular employment, and maintaining themselves by their own labour, who live in lodgings?—They are very bad labourers; a very objectionable class; they are a class of persons whose industry never induces them to accumulate enough to procure a house for their family; it is a very wretched meagre position.

6101. What is about the lowest rent at which cottages are let?—Something like 1*s.* 6*d.* a week, for a couple of rooms, sub-let.

6102. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Did the 126 houses to which you referred consist of a couple of rooms; you say there were 126 houses let in Birkenhead in that locality to which the Irish generally resort?—Yes; they consist of about two rooms in each sub-letting.

6103. In these 126 houses there appear to be 1,387 individuals?—There are.

6104. That is, as nearly as may be, 11 persons for every two rooms?—I think that is about the average.

6105. Do you find that the English people lodge in the same way?—No, I do not.

6106. How many Englishmen would go into the same amount of accommodation?—I have seldom or never found that an Englishman has more than his own family in one room, and I have seen more than four or five Irish families living in one room; it is not the habit of the English to live with two families in one room, and it is quite the habit of the Irish.

6107. Do you find that the Irish are improved in their habits by mixing with the English?—I have perceived in some cases that there was an improvement in persons who were formerly of that low vagrant class, but it is an exception to the rule; they are not much improved; but I have observed that there are some persons who have come out of that low class into a better.

6108. Notwithstanding it requires a five years' industrial residence under the present law to give irremovability, you have 1 in every 4¼ of the Irish a pauper receiving relief?—Yes.

6109. Therefore I presume if two years gave irremovability, there would be an increase?—I have no doubt there would to some little extent; but I think the workhouse supplies a very excellent test for ascertaining destitution, as well as being sent over to Ireland; this would only affect the removable portion.

6110. I understood that the 1,441 Irish, the 1,090 English, and the 38 Scotch whom you quoted were irremovable?—No; it includes both removable and settled, those who have a five years' residence, and those who have not.

6111. *Chairman.*] All those upon the rates?—All those who have received relief.

6112. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Under the head of "Total of Townships and Irremovable Poor," you have 1,441 Irish apparently?—That is intended to include both the poor chargeable to the townships and the irremovable poor; I have a summary here of it, which, perhaps, will show it better than anything; it shows how

how many of the Irish have gained a settlement, how many are removable from every cause, how many have a five years' residence, and how many have not.

6113. *Chairman.*] You hand in this table for that purpose, headed, "Abstract from General Statement"?—Yes.

6114. Do you wish to make any observations upon that statement which you now hand in?—I took here, from the books of the inspector of lodging-houses, the number of persons that were in those lodging-houses, that being the class of persons which I have just been speaking of, and I have put, on taking the same average, the number of persons that have not gained a settlement, or a five years' residence. I tried that by the same rule as I have tested the relief, taking one in every five, to show how many would be affected by an alteration in the matter. As to the number of houses in Birkenhead alone of that Irish class, there are 4,825, which in relative proportion would give 3,860 without having gained a settlement, or an irremovability, for the township alone; and those who have gained a settlement and irremovability would be 965.

6115. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] That is as to the Irish?—Yes.

6116. If I read this table correctly, you have 903 irremovable poor under the head of Irish?—Yes.

6117. How many English have you?—Four hundred and fifty-four.

6118. How many Scotch?—Eighteen.

6119. How many foreigners?—Six.

6120. You have irremovable poor to that extent under the present law; do you not think that they would be very greatly increased if the law were altered, as you have suggested, to two years' industrial residence in place of five?—There would certainly be some increase in the number, but I do not think there would be much to fear from the extent of it, so long as the workhouse is properly wrought as a test of destitution.

6121. I suppose your workhouse test is properly wrought?—It is.

6122. Notwithstanding that, you have nearly double the number of Irish poor that you have of English?—Yes; but I do not suppose we should have many more who were really deserving if you extended the thing as far as you could; there are many persons applying for relief who do not get it.

6123. You say that the employment in Birkenhead is fluctuating?—It is.

6124. Was it very fluctuating during the year for which this table was made out?—It has been considered during the last twelve months that Birkenhead is rather improving.

6125. Is employment plentiful?—Not plentiful, but better than usual.

6126. Have all your able-bodied working class got employment?—There was certainly a very heavy winter, and a great call upon the rates.

6127. *Chairman.*] What do you mean by a heavy winter?—There was a long period of frost and snow, which prevented even industrious men from following their occupations, and put them to a very great deal of inconvenience, and some leniency was shown to them under those circumstances by the Board.

6128. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] But has not this last year been, upon the whole, rather a prosperous year?—It has.

6129. Employment has been more than usually plentiful?—Yes; our population has been increasing also with our increasing prosperity. I think it has been, on the whole, a very good year for Birkenhead.

6130. What do you mean by the commercial district?—It is the name which has been given to it by the Poor-law Board, I think; it is recognised as such.

6131. Is there any other district?—The agricultural district.

6132. Beyond the commercial?—Beyond the commercial. The union is divided into two districts, the agricultural and the commercial.

6133. Are you only connected with the commercial?—I am only connected with the commercial.

6134. You have no knowledge of the agricultural?—No personal knowledge; all I know is, that all the removals of Irish persons are made by me for the whole union.

6135. *Chairman.*] That business is exclusively under your management?—It is.

6136. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] What is the rent paid for these houses to which you have referred?—I should say from 1 *s.* 6 *d.* to 2 *s.* for two rooms sub-let.

6137. Are there any built in flats?—There are a few built upon what is called the Scotch principle, with an open staircase, and with an entrance to each flat.

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6138. A residence of two years, in such a house as you described of two rooms, you think ought to make a party irremovable?—Yes, taken from the landlord, not a sub-letting from another person.

6139. Mr. *Ingham.*] Will you mention again the number of Irish to whom the workhouse has been offered?—During the 12 months the number is 674.

6140. And what is the number that have entered?—Fifty-six.

6141. Then you have found it a very efficient test?—I have.

6142. Do you make any difference in the mode of treatment within the workhouse between the Irish and the English paupers?—Not in the workhouse.

6143. You have no separate wards?—No distinction whatever.

6144. I believe I have the figures correctly, that upon the 1,441 Irish who received relief in the course of that year you expended the sum of 1,005 *l.*?—Yes.

6145. That gives an average, I believe, of 14 *s.* a head, very nearly?—Yes.

6146. The number of English is 1,090?—Yes.

6147. £. 1,553 is the sum expended?—Yes.

6148. That is about 37 *s.* per head; how do you account for the difference per head in the relief between the Irish and the English?—The English are settled poor; they are, many of them, old and infirm, and are constantly chargeable to the rates, whereas the other is simply casual in its character.

6149. One has been probably longer throughout the year in receipt of relief than the other?—Yes; there is no distinction with regard to the relief necessary.

6150. Mr. *Maguire.*] Is the diet in your workhouse as liberal as that in the Liverpool?—I cannot say, for I have not compared the two; they give a very liberal diet.

6151. You told the Committee that 674 were offered the workhouse, and that 56 went in; that is leaving, I think, 618 who refused?—Yes.

6152. They refused to accept of the workhouse relief?—They did.

6153. Then the workhouse did not offer sufficient attractions to those paupers to induce them to enter it?—No.

6154. You say that the dietary of course is much superior to that of Irish workhouses?—Decidedly.

6155. From the fact of those 618 persons having refused the advantage of that very liberal scale of dietary as compared with the Irish workhouses, would it be your opinion that a very large number of paupers leave Ireland for the express purpose of receiving the advantage of such a liberal diet?—I do not think that they leave expressly for that purpose.

6156. You do not think it is probable?—No, not expressly for that purpose.

6157. With reference to those 126 houses which you spoke of as being occupied by 1,387 persons, had they all only two rooms each?—No; I do not suppose there would be more than two rooms in each sub-letting; there were 185 sub-lettings; they are let into 185 different parts; I should say that there were about two rooms in each sub-letting.

6158. Are you certain that there were not more than two rooms in any house?—There might be more than two rooms, but I should say that it would not be upon the average more than two rooms in each sub-letting.

6159. You cannot say, from your own knowledge, that there were not more?—From my knowledge of the houses, I think there are about two rooms in each sub-letting,

6160. How would that give you the result of 11 persons in two rooms?—I think you will find it 11 in each house.

6161. You do not then mean to represent to the Committee that there were only two rooms in each house?—No, I certainly do not.

6162. Then if you said that there were 11 in two rooms, would it not give a fallacious result?—Yes, I should say so; but I have seen more than 36 in two rooms; but the general average is 11 to each house.

6163. You say that two years you think would be sufficient as a residence in the case of a person occupying a house in one parish; supposing the Scotch system were carried out, and a large house were divided into seven or eight separate tenements, would you not give the benefit of a residence to a man who had occupied one of those flats for the same period, and had industriously supported himself?—If he took it from the landlord I would not care what the holding was.

6164. What difference would it make?—You can otherwise get no knowledge of

of the persons who take it; there are various lodgings occupied by wanderers, and there is no one to account for them.

6165. Supposing it were satisfactorily proved that a person had lived in one of those flats for two years, and had supported himself and his family by his labour, being an industrious man, would not you give that person a residence, even although he acknowledged the occupier of the house as his landlord, instead of the person from whom the occupier took that house?—Whatever I should do, I think, as a general principle, the other mode would be better than merely leaving it to choice.

6166. As a matter of abstract fairness, you would give the right to a man occupying a flat as well as to one occupying a single house?—Certainly, if it were shown that he was of that industrious character.

6167. Did these 618 persons who refused the relief in the workhouse apply to you for relief again?—I could not follow them.

6168. The greater number of them?—They would apply for relief under different circumstances, and perhaps obtain it.

6169. But you state positively that 618 of those refused the workhouse relief?—Decidedly so. I have compared the books of the workhouse with the orders upon my own books.

6170. I believe Irish labourers have been of very great service to Birkenhead?—No doubt of it.

6171. In the prosecution of the docks?—There is no doubt of it whatever.

6172. I believe that if you had not Irish labourers, you would suffer very great inconvenience, would you not?—I believe the country could not go on without Irish labourers.

6173. That is your deliberate opinion?—It is.

6174. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] With respect to those 618 who applied for relief and who refused workhouse relief, if they had come into the workhouse, would they not have been subject to removal in consequence?—Decidedly so; the great majority would; I could not say all, because I did not follow that particularly out.

6175. Do you think that the parties applying were aware that if they went into the workhouse they would be subject to removal, and that that was the reason why they did not?—No, I think it was the dislike of the workhouse.

6176. You do not think that they had a knowledge that if they went into the workhouse they would be subject to removal?—No, I think not; for if they had received relief outside, the thing for which they were applying, they would have been as liable to be removed.

6177. With regard to the two years' occupation of a house directly taken from the landlord, if that law was adopted, would you recommend the abolition of the five years' industrial residence which now exists, or would you keep both?—I think it would destroy the five years' industrial residence; if the one was adopted the other would go I think.

6178. Upon the statement which you have given, there were about 700 who held direct from the landlords, and they sub-let?—Yes.

6179. There were about 600 who were the lodgers of the men who had the premises from the landlords?—Yes.

6180. That would be nearly one-half who could not, if the two years' residence were adopted, upon principle obtain it?—Not by their present mode of living.

6181. But supposing the two years' residence direct from the landlord to be adopted, and that out of those 600 there were found 20, 30, or 40 who had a five years' industrial residence, would you debar that class from being entitled?—Certainly I would, unless they had taken a house, in order to get at the general principle.

6182. You think that such a mode of giving an industrial residence as two years' occupation direct from the landlord would not materially increase the charge upon the parish in respect of the paupers?—No, I do not think it would, with the tests which the law affords at present.

6183. Of course what you have now stated applies to Englishmen, Scotchmen, and foreigners, equally with the Irish?—Yes.

6184. *Chairman.*] You are contemplating, I suppose, a general alteration of that law of irremovability applicable to persons of all classes?—Yes; what was given to one should be given to all.

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6185. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] One hundred and twenty-six houses are let to 126 individuals, but they appear to be sub-let to 185; would you give to those 126 parties, although not occupying the house themselves, a claim after the two years' residence, seeing that they had not really occupied the whole house themselves?—I would simply give it to the individual who had taken the house from the landlord.

6186. Whether he occupied it himself and his family or let it to others, you would regard the mere taking of the house as a sufficient claim to irremovability?—I would; I would simply apply it to the 126 taking the house.

6187. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Seeing that the average amount of relief given to the Irish poor who have been relieved out of the workhouse is about 14*s.* a head, is it safe to conclude that that for the most part is temporary relief given to people who at other times are able to earn their bread?—Decidedly so; there are certainly a good many Irish permanently disabled, from age and infirmity; but there is no doubt that the township being so young, the locality itself being so new, few persons have resided so long, or done anything to entitle them from a long residence or any act of their own, to become permanent paupers.

6188. The fact is, that when those great works were undertaken at Birkenhead a large number of Irish labourers came there and obtained employment, and since that time they have not been in such regular employment there?—No, that is the very reason.

6189. And in hard seasons they ask for temporary relief?—Yes; and then they are obliged to leave their wives and families, and their wives and families become chargeable while they are away; a good many do leave their wives and families, by desertion and otherwise.

6190. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Had they not large wages at that time?—Yes, but the wages were destroyed from the uncertain nature of the employment. It was constantly being stopped from one cause or another; it never went on with proper spirit; that was a great hinderance to them.

6191. Then are we to understand that in the formation of the docks, or of the buildings which surrounded the docks, the parties making them and building the houses, for want of money occasionally stopped and threw the men idle?—Not exactly in building houses; it was the dock works themselves; there was always some annoyance for want of money, so that the workmen were stopped perhaps six or eight months at a time.

6192. Consequently, although a man might have high wages while employed, yet these frequent interruptions absorbed all his money in living during those times when he was not employed?—Yes; he was obliged to travel in search of employment afterwards.

6193. Mr. *Maguire.*] That travelling in search of employment shows rather an industrious spirit than the contrary?—It does; but in many cases it is not a virtue; there are many cases where they do not do it from an industrious idea; they will not be controlled by anything like order.

John Francis Maguire, Esq., a Member of the Committee; Examined.

J. F. Maguire, Esq., M.P.

6194. *Chairman.*] IS the Honourable Member for Dungarvon desirous of handing in any documents in his possession bearing upon the subject of this inquiry?—Yes; I am anxious to hand in two papers, with which I have been entrusted by the authorities of the Clonakilty Union, being the case of Mary Heas, and the case of Mary Jones, both declared before a magistrate of the county.

[*The Honourable Member delivered in the same, which are as follow:*]

County of Cork. } MARY HEAS came before me, one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for the said county, and solemnly declares that she was born in the parish of Ross, near the town of Rosscarbery and county of Cork, and about nine years ago was married in the same parish; and in about six weeks after her marriage went to Newport with her husband, where they resided over five years, after which time they returned back to this country, and remained about nine months in the neighbourhood of Clonakilty. In May 1851 they went again to Newport, where they resided, and earned a comfortable livelihood. Her husband left her about seven months ago, having gone to America, with the full intention of sending for herself and her two children as soon as possible.

Since

J. F. Maguire, Esq., M. P.

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Since her husband left she has supported herself and infant child independently by her own earnings, having constant employment as a washerwoman in different families, until about two months since, when, in the apprehension of fever, she applied to Mr. Salter, the relieving officer, for admission to the hospital at Storne Hill, in connexion with the Newport Union. He gave her the ticket of admission, at the same time observing that he would send her to Ireland as soon as ever she was recovered. She was in hospital about 17 days, and was almost fully recovered, but had not been ordered off the sick list by the medical officer, when the aforesaid relieving officer came into the hospital, and asked if there were any Irish who could leave.

The nurse pointed her out, with several others. She was taken by the relieving officer to the town, in company of the nurse, and had to affix her name to a paper, which she was given to understand was, that an allowance should be given to her until she would receive the letter which she expected from her husband. She was then taken to the Town Hall, and examined on oath as to her parish in Ireland, and until then was not aware that it was the intention to send her to Ireland; she then and afterwards decidedly stated that she was not a burden on the parish, having plenty of employment, and perfect ability to earn her livelihood, to which the relieving officer constantly replied that she should go to Ireland, and would not permit her to ask for a discharge. She also asked permission to see her friends, who were in comfortable circumstances, and who had her eldest child, and also to go for her clothes, but was refused all.

She was again taken to the hospital, and on the following day was brought by the constabulary and shipped for Cork.

Owing to an accident to the vessel, she was put ashore at Waterford, and was obliged to go into the workhouse there for a few days, to recover strength; from which place she travelled up to her native place, having to sell portion of her clothes to assist her on from workhouse to workhouse, and is now, as a destitute pauper, an inmate of the Clonakilty Union Workhouse.

her
Mary × Heas,
mark.

Declared and signed before me, this 31st May 1854.

William Bence Jones, Clonakilty,
Justice of Peace, County Cork.

County of Cork. } Mary Jones came before me, one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for the said county, and made a solemn declaration to the following effect:

That she was born in the parish of Rathbarry, near the town of Clonakilty, in the county of Cork; that she went to London over 22 years ago; that she there earned her livelihood as a waistcoat-maker; that she spent nine years without interruption in the same establishment, in the parish of Whitechapel, No. 20, Tinker-street, Spitalfields; that she was then married to an Englishman, named Thomas Edward Richard Jones, a tailor by trade, in the parish church of Shoreditch, in which parish her husband resided; that she lived with her husband 10 years in that parish, and had there four children, three of whom are still living; that her husband then deserted herself and children, and that, after spending seven or eight months more in the same place, she was advised to apply for relief at the union of Shoreditch, with a view to the guardians discovering her husband.

That after she had made application for relief she was taken by a servant of the guardians of St. Leonard's before the magistrates in Worship-street, and a warrant for her removal to Ireland was there applied for.

That she objected to that, and, having given a full statement of her case, the bench refused to grant the warrant, and advised that the trustees should advertise for her husband; that on her return to the workhouse she was taken to the church, and having given answers to all inquiries about the dates of her marriage, and the birth of her children, they were satisfied as to the correctness of her statement from the entries in the parish records; that she then believed that her husband was advertised for, and was in the workhouse for about four or five months, when she was, without her will or consent, transferred to Ireland; that she insisted upon her discharge, but was refused, and was also refused when she demanded her clothes; that she travelled from Cork to the Clonakilty workhouse, where she was admitted, and is an inmate of the workhouse, with her three children, since December 1852.

That if discharged in London she could have fully supported herself and children by waistcoat-making, and stated so when applying for her discharge.

her
Mary × Jones,
mark.

Declared and signed before me, this 6th day of June 1854.

William Bence Jones,
Justice of Peace, County Cork.

I am also anxious to have as much of this case as can be conveniently put upon the records of the Committee.

J. F. Maguire, Esq., M.P.

6 July 1854.

6195. What case is that?—The case of Mary Murray. I shall not ask the Committee to have this inserted, inasmuch as I understand an abstract has been made of this case; but I was directed specially by the chairman of the Board of Guardians of the Dunmanway Union to bring this case before the notice of the Committee, as it is believed by the guardians to be a case of illegality, inasmuch as, according to the woman's sworn testimony, she could not have been legally removed.

6196. I believe the Honourable Member is now aware that this is one of the cases in the correspondence referred to this Committee, and that it is at present in progress of being abstracted?—So I understand. The only other matter with which I think it necessary to trouble the Committee is as to the relief given to poor persons for the purpose of sending them over to this country. Having been the chief magistrate of a populous city for one year, and having considerable acquaintance with the local courts and with the Board of Guardians, I can positively state from my own knowledge that there is no organised system of retransmitting persons from Ireland to England; that in every case where application is made by a poor person as strict an investigation is made into the individual case as time will admit of, and that it is only where the gentlemen appealed to are satisfied that they are doing a real act of charity in endeavouring to unite members of a family who have been for the moment separated, or in enabling persons, by sending them back to England, again to maintain themselves, that they do subscribe, and do assist such persons to be sent back. I myself have done so several times, and I have done so out of my own pocket, but I never have done so in any case where I was not satisfied that I was doing an act of mercy to those people.

6197. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] When you say, "no organised system," I suppose you refer to no organised system in Cork?—No organised system in Cork; and I am in a peculiar position, such as would enable me to know if anything of the kind existed, and I can positively state that such has never come to my knowledge.

6198. *Chairman.*] You have no knowledge of it?—I have no knowledge of it; and I may add, that I have very extensive information on most questions connected with the subject.

6199. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Are you at all acquainted with Belfast?—I know no more of Belfast than what the Honourable Member knows himself, and I think the explanation of that case is very satisfactory indeed.

6200. *Chairman.*] As I understand, the Honourable Member for Dungarvon has paid great attention to this subject, and from the result of his observation and inquiries, he believes that there has been no organised system of the kind?—Yes; I can speak generally, because I have never heard of it, and I can speak particularly, because I know what the practice is in Cork. I will state how the thing happens; a peculiar case, of what the guardians might consider a hardship in the operation of this law, might be brought before them, and if a few of them found that they really could enable a party, as I said before, to be restored, say to a husband or to members of a family able to support that person, or that by sending that person back to England they could enable her or him to support himself or herself, in that case, and in that case alone, they would do it; but no gentleman, to my knowledge, has ever put his hand into his pocket for the mere promotion of the selfish object of getting that person off the union; that I can say of my own knowledge.

Lunæ, 10° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Liddell.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Ingham.
Sir John Young.	Sir John Pakington.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	

The Right Hon. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, in the Chair.

Mr. *John Harrop*, called in ; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Harrop.*

10 July 1854.

6201. *Chairman.*] I believe you are Clerk to the Board of Guardians of the Township of Manchester?—I am.

6202. How long have you filled that situation?—Nearly nine years.

6203. Your attention has been called to the subject of the inquiries of this Committee, I believe?—It has.

6204. Have you any information to give the Committee, with regard to the operation of the 8th and 9th Victoria, chapter 117, which is the Act of Parliament by which the removals of Irish paupers in England are now regulated?—I may state with reference to the 8th and 9th Victoria, chapter 117, that the practice in Manchester was not much altered by that enactment; regulations existed previously in reference to the passing of Irish poor. The justices were required under that Act, in quarter sessions to make certain regulations, and those regulations I believe provided somewhat more liberally for certain allowances made to Irish poor removed, than had been the custom in Manchester.

6205. I suppose you conformed to the new Act of the 8th and 9th Victoria; you have acted according to that Act since it was passed?—Quite so.

6206. And so you mean, I suppose, that your practice before that had been pretty nearly in conformity with what the Legislature sanctioned in the 8th and 9th Victoria?—Very similar in Manchester.

6207. Can you furnish the Committee with any information as to the numbers of cases, and particularly the cases of Irish paupers, which have been relieved within the last eight years?—I have no doubt I can ; I have brought some memoranda which I think will furnish that information.

6208. What is the first table which you have?—The first table which I have shows the number of cases of each class; we divide our cases under three different heads in Manchester; English settled, English non-settled, and Irish applicants; and this is a statement which shows the weekly average number of cases during each of the years from 1846 to 1854.

6209. These two years inclusive?—Yes.

6210. Does it also state the cost?—It does.

6211. That is a table which you can put in?—Yes.

[*The Witness delivered in the same, which is as follows:*]

(A.)

TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER.

WEEKLY (Average) Numbers, Cost, &c., of POOR, during the Years ending March 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, and 1854.

	1846.	1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.
ENGLISH SETTLED:									
Weekly (Average) Number of Cases	1,814	1,653	2,843	2,521	2,127	1,905	1,897	1,518	1,286
Individuals	- - - -	- - - -	6,377	5,436	4,214	3,640	3,555	2,633	2,158
Cost	£. 237. 18. 9.	£. 234. 19. 10.	£. 407. 2. 7.	£. 338. 9. 5.	£. 264. 15. 5.	£. 231. 6. 5.	£. 227. 19. 0.	£. 168. 11. 7.	£. 150. 16. 7.
Cost per Case	2/7 3/8	2/10 1/8	2/10 1/4	2/8 1/8	2/5 7/8	2/4 3/4	2/4 3/4	2/2 5/8	2/4 1/8
Cost per Individual	- - - -	- - - -	1/3 1/4	1/2 7/8	1/3	1/3 1/4	1/3 3/8	1/3 1/4	1/4 3/4
ENGLISH NON-SETTLED:									
Weekly (Average) Number of Cases	631	790	2,085	1,575	929	775	833	721	701
Individuals	- - - -	- - - -	4,969	3,538	1,873	1,563	1,714	1,429	1,376
Cost	£. 79. 7. 0.	£. 97. 18. 0.	£. 291. 1. 5.	£. 201. 6. 6.	£. 114. 4. 3.	£. 96. 4. 8.	£. 104. 0. 10.	£. 83. 10. 7.	£. 87. 0. 7.
Cost per Case	2/6 1/8	2/5 5/8	2/9 1/2	2/6 5/8	2/5 1/2	2/5 1/8	2/5 7/8	2/3 3/4	2/5 3/4
Cost per Individual	- - - -	- - - -	1/2	1/1 5/8	1/2 5/8	1/2 3/4	1/2 1/2	1/2	1/3 1/8
IRISH:									
Weekly (Average) Number of Cases	408	715	2,597	2,062	1,565	1,436	1,649	1,227	1,130
Individuals	- - - -	- - - -	6,929	5,113	3,608	3,149	3,661	2,449	2,300
Cost	£. 46. 13. 6.	£. 89. 8. 10.	£. 404. 14. 0.	£. 292. 2. 8.	£. 198. 13. 5.	£. 177. 17. 6.	£. 206. 16. 2.	£. 138. 3. 6.	£. 144. 2. 7.
Cost per Case	2/3 3/8	2/6	3/1 3/8	2/10	2/6 3/8	2/5 5/8	2/6	2/3	2/6 1/2
Cost per Individual	- - - -	- - - -	1/2	1/1 5/8	1/1 1/8	1/1 1/2	1/1 1/2	1/1 1/2	1/3
GENERAL TOTAL WEEKLY AVERAGE	£. 363. 19. 3.	£. 422. 6. 8.	£. 1,102. 18. 0.	£. 831. 18. 7.	£. 577. 13. 1.	£. 505. 8. 7.	£. 538. 16. 0.	£. 390. 5. 8.	£. 381. 19. 9.

6212. I observe that in this table the number of Irish in 1846 were 408; in 1847, 715; in 1848 they were 2,597; in 1849, 2,062; in 1850, 1,565; in 1851, 1,436; in 1852, 1,649; in 1853, 1,227; and in 1854, 1,130?—That is the weekly average during each year ending March in those years which have been mentioned.

6213. Those are cases?—They are.

6214. And I suppose each case represents a family?—Each case represents a family.

6215. What should you say was about the average number in a family?—It would not much exceed two ordinarily; a little more at periods of pressure, when there are large families on the relief books.

6216. These numbers multiplied by something between two and three would give the number of individuals?—I think the number of individuals will be seen in the latter years; in 1846–7 the number was not given.

6217. Was the number of individuals in 1848, 6,929; in 1849, 5,113; in 1850, 3,608; in 1851, 3,149; in 1852, 3,661; in 1853, 2,449; and in 1854, 2,300?—Those would be the individuals referring to the cases.

6218. That table represents, I observe, the English also; therefore, it affords the means of comparison?—It represents all the cases which we had on the books under the three different classes.

6219. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] You classify the Irish, as Irish, without reference, I observe, to the period during which some of them, or many of them, may have resided at Manchester?—Just so.

6220. *Chairman.*] Whether they are irremovable or not they appear?—Just so; the whole are under the class of Irish.

6221. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Have you any means of forming an opinion, or stating to the Committee what number of those Irish may have resided for any considerable time, say three or four years or more, at Manchester?—I have no hesitation in saying that the major part of the cases there given have resided more than five years, but there are always a few that are amongst them removable, who are placed under the head of cases relieved, as Irish cases, so long as they are relieved. They are relieved occasionally when they are removable; circumstances sometimes influence the Board of Guardians to relieve Irish cases when removable, and they are placed in the returns amongst the Irish cases, although removable.

6222. Then am I to understand you to state that most of those persons whom you have given as Irish here have been resident, in your opinion, for some years, at least, in Manchester?—Yes; the greater portion of them.

6223. Do you class amongst the Irish any Irish who may have acquired a settlement in Manchester?—We scarcely know of any who have acquired a settlement. I should be inclined to say that they are placed there; comparatively few acquire a settlement under the law, as it stands, for the acquirement of a settlement is difficult to any poor man.

6224. Mr. *Liddell.*] The result by this table appears to be a gratifying result, that the number of Irish individuals who were relieved in 1848, being nearly 7,000, viz., 6,929, and in 1849, 5,113, it has been gradually reduced to the number of 2,300 in the year 1854?—Just so.

6225. And that reduction has gone on in a gradual process of diminution?—From the period when it was highest in 1848, after the passing of the 9 and 10 Vict. c. 66, the Act rendering persons irremovable who have resided in any given place for five years. I have given the figures for the year ending March 1846 there, to show the operation of the 9 and 10 Vict. c. 66.

6226. Do you attribute this reduction to the greater amount of employment which you are enabled to give at Manchester, or to the less amount of influx of Irish into that town?—Probably to both causes, I may say.

6227. *Chairman.*] Have you an account of the Irish and the English population in these years at Manchester?—I have an account of the native Irish population, with which I have been favoured by the registrar-general from the census of 1841, of the borough of Manchester, and from the census of 1851 for the superintendent registrar's district; they differ in point of extent. The superintendent registrar's district is of less area and less population than the borough.

6228. They do not represent the same area?—Not precisely.

6229. Then you cannot very well compare them, can you?—I cannot compare them precisely, but I might perhaps inform the Committee thereby as to the

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probabilities of the increase of native Irish in Manchester. I may state, that from the returns alluded to the population of the borough of Manchester in 1841 was 235,139; the number of natives of Ireland and Scotland resident therein at that period was as follows: 30,304 born in Ireland, resident, and 4,113 born in Scotland, resident; perhaps I ought to state that at that time, as now, the borough consisted of six townships, and that Manchester contained a population of 163,667, leaving something like 72,000 for the other townships, which, I must state, are not comprised in the superintendent registrar's district. In the census of 1851 the superintendent registrar's district shows a population of 228,433, the township of Manchester being the principal township in the superintendent registrar's district, and containing at that period 186,286 souls; at that time the number of natives of Ireland resident in Manchester was 37,958 in the superintendent registrar's district of Manchester, as against 30,304 in the borough of Manchester in the year 1841; and the natives of Scotland resident in Manchester in 1851 were 3,209 in the superintendent registrar's district, as against 4,113 in the borough in 1841: there is a little difficulty in explaining this, from the fact that the borough is mentioned in one case, and the superintendent registrar's district in the other; but I should state, that in 1841 the township of Manchester, which is one of the six townships that I have named, had a population of 163,667, and a population of 72,000 belonged to the other townships of the borough, and in 1851, 10 years later, the population of the township of Manchester, in the superintendent registrar's district, was 186,986, and the adjoining townships, forming the superintendent registrar's district, and at one time forming the Manchester union, contained 41,000 as against 72,000 in the other townships of the borough in 1841, showing a considerable increase in natives of Ireland and Scotland resident at the two periods, in the township of Manchester.

[*The Witness delivered in the following Paper*:]

(B.)

CENSUS OF 1841.

NATIVES of Ireland and Scotland resident in the Borough of Manchester, comprising a population of 235,139.

Manchester	163,667
Ardwick	9,906
Beswick	345
Cheetham	6,080
Chorlton	28,322
Hulme	26,819
	235,139

Ireland	30,304 persons.
Scotland	4,113 persons.

Say 12 $\frac{7}{8}$ per cent. on population.

CENSUS OF 1851.

NATIVES of Ireland and Scotland resident in the Superintendent Registrar's District of Manchester, formerly known as the "Manchester Union," and comprising a population of 228,433 (the population in 1841 being 192,303.)

Manchester	186,986
Out Townships of District	41,447
	228,433

Ireland

Ireland:

Under 20 years of age,	20 years, and upwards,
9,615.	28,343.

37,958.

Scotland:

Under 20 years of age,	20 years, and upwards.
647.	2,562.

3,209.

Say 16 ½ per cent. on population.

Natives of Ireland and Scotland resident in the City of Manchester and the Borough of Salford.

Ireland:	Scotland:
52,504.	6,551.

6230. Have you a list of the Irish and Scotch removals for some time past?—Yes; I have a return showing the number of Irish and Scotch poor relieved weekly, and the number removed annually, from 1834 to 1854, which I will put in.

[*The Witness delivered in the same, which is a follows:*]

(C.)

TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER.

Irish and Scotch Poor.

YEAR ENDING	Average Weekly Number of Families relieved Out-door.	NUMBER PASSED.			
		IRISH.		SCOTCH.	
		Families.	Persons.	Families.	Persons.
March 1834	479	145	258	—	—
„ 1835	312	77	183	2	5
„ 1836	271	87	176	5	10
„ 1837	241	114	284	5	15
„ 1838	674	407	1,105	12	44
„ 1839	296	157	323	12	17
„ 1840	267	246	572	6	15
„ 1841	260	263	627	14	24
„ 1842	289	275	604	13	26
„ 1843	466	398	976	20	32
„ 1844	468	211	428	16	31
„ 1845 (8 & 9 Vict. c. 117.)	481	219	453	4	9
„ 1846 (9 & 10 Vict. c. 66)	408	158	286	15	34
„ 1847	715	285	553	15	33
„ 1848	2,597	1,033	1,902	50	103
„ 1849	2,062	405	617	31	45
„ 1850	1,565	172	275	19	38
„ 1851	1,436	205	400	10	20
„ 1852	1,649	215	337	16	36
„ 1853	1,227	190	362	6	10
„ 1854	1,130	307	553	12	22

6231. The number passed, beginning with 1847, I observe, was of Irish persons, 553; in 1848, 1,902; in 1849, 617; in 1850, 275; in 1851, 400; in 1852, 337; in 1853, 362; and in 1854, 553?—That would be the number of persons.

6232. By "passed" you mean removed, I suppose?—Just so.

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6233. Then of Scotch, in 1847, I believe the numbers were 33 persons removed; in 1848, 103; in 1849, 45; in 1850, 38; in 1851, 20; in 1852, 36; in 1853, 10; and in 1854, 22?—Those would be the numbers.

6234. Mr. *Liddell.*] What was the reason of the remarkable diminution of the number removed in the year 1850, it having been 1,902 in 1848, and 617 in 1849, but only 275 in 1850, being the lowest year in that column?—The year 1848 was a year during which a great many Irish poor persons arrived in Manchester as applicants for relief, and having a very short residence, they were of course removed. The arrivals were considerably fewer in subsequent years. Perhaps I may be allowed to state that the year ending March 1848 includes three-quarters of the year 1847; the parochial year ending in March.

6235. *Chairman.*] Have you a list of the Irish cases for the last two years, showing the number of new applications, and distinguishing those ordered by the guardians to be passed from those who actually were passed?—I have. The new applications are those which applied the first time in each half year; and of course the books being made up half-yearly, all cases become new applications each half year; that is our technical expression.

[*The Witness delivered in the following Paper:*]

(D.)

TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER.

RETURN relating to IRISH and SCOTCH POOR.

Quarters ending	Number of New Applications for Relief.	Number of Orders Made for House and Pass to Ireland.	Number of Orders Applied for to the Justices.	EXPENSES.		
				Before Justices.	Conveyance, &c.	TOTAL.
				£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
une - - 1852	1,366	263	56			
eptember - „	1,040	223	40			
December - „	1,112	203	52			
Iarch - 1853	1,208	223	48			
	4,726	912	196	52 17 6	140 2 7	193 - 1
une - - „	1,141	178	56			
eptember - „	873	216	66			
December - „	1,322	276	83			
Iarch - 1854	1,823	301	114			
	5,159	971	319	86 14 6	240 8 6	327 3 -

6236. I suppose the figures in the Table which you have now handed in represent cases?—Yes, all cases.

6237. Are there any other facts of a statistical character which you wish to lay before the Committee, with reference to this subject?—I have a classification of the families or cases that were removed during the year ending March 1854, stating the condition of the parties, whether married or single, and widows with children and so on.

6238. Will you hand it in?—

[*The Witness delivered in the same, which is as follows:*]

(E.)

TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER.

Irish and Scotch Poor Removed.—Year ending March 1854.

Married couples with children	29	
Married couples without children	8	
		37
Widows with children	27	
Widows without children	15	
		42
Widowers with children	5	
Widowers without children	1	
		6
Single women with children	13	
Single women without children	78	
		91
Men without families		79
Women deserted by husbands		45
Women, husbands in Ireland		9
Orphans or other children without parents		10
Total Number of Passes		319

6239. What is the practice at Manchester on an application being made by an Irishman, who therefore becomes chargeable. He applies, I suppose, in the first instance, to the relieving officer; is that case reported to the guardians?—The cases of applicants for relief are all reported to the guardians. Where paupers are found to be removable the guardians, if they deem them proper cases for removal, and if they consider it desirable to remove them, make an order for their admission into the workhouse; if the order is accepted, the pass-officer is made acquainted with their admission into the workhouse, and he proceeds to make enquiries in accordance with the form of examination. The pauper is then taken before the magistrates, and if the magistrates think fit, upon hearing the statements made, they sign an order for the removal.

6240. The magistrates exercise the discretion which is given them by the words of the Act, "if they think fit"?—They do.

6241. I observe a very considerable difference in the table which you have just now given in, between the number of cases in which removals have been directed by the guardians and the number ultimately ordered by the magistrates?—Yes.

6242. How is that?—The parties declined to submit to the removal.

6243. Then it does not go before the magistrates?—Those cases do not go before the magistrates. The cases that are referred back to the Board by the magistrates are very few; they are insignificant in point of number; but there are, occasionally, such cases.

6244. When the Board direct that a case shall be taken before the magistrates, is that case, as a matter of course, taken before the magistrates, or do you give the party the option of ceasing to become chargeable, in which event you do not make the application?—We frequently allow poor persons to endeavour to maintain themselves after the order is made by the guardians. They are not compelled to appear before the justices if there is any probability of their maintaining themselves.

6245. That accounts for the great difference between the number of cases in which removals have been ordered by the guardians, and those in which orders of removal have been ultimately made by the magistrates?—A great number of those cases voluntarily go away; we do not hear any more of them.

6246. Have you formed an opinion as to the practicability of doing away with the law of removal of the Irish poor. It has been suggested here that the power

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of removal might be safely and properly taken away. What is your opinion upon that?—I almost fear that it would not be beneficial to this country.

6247. Will you state what objections occur to you respecting it?—It is my opinion that were the power of removal abolished there would be an influx of Irish poor persons into England professing to seek, and very likely really seeking, employment from the increased value of labour in this country, as they would then be aware that they could not be removed if they become destitute; I think it might be some inducement, and very probably it would be some inducement, to them to come over in search of employment.

6248. Do you apprehend that any other class besides those who come *bonâ fide* in search of employment might be brought over?—I think it very likely; I have an impression that that would be the case.

6249. At present do you conceive that you have sufficient means of testing the case of the Irish pauper, I mean by your workhouse?—I do not consider that the Manchester Workhouse is quite adequate to the wants of the township as a test of destitution, at the present time.

6250. In your opinion, does the law give you the means of applying such a test as would be sufficient for the purpose of the Irish poor without having recourse to an order of removal?—I almost fear that the test, as applied, if I am rightly informed, in Ireland could not be applied in England.

6251. Why?—My impression is, that the system pursued in England would have to be very much altered as regards out-door relief. I consider that out-door relief as administered in England would have to be almost abolished, if we must have a test to meet such cases. I may state that the Irish cases who are irremovable are treated quite in the same way that the English poor are; I am referring to that system; I do not think that we could retain the present system of administration of out-relief if we had not the test of removal.

6252. In your judgment would public opinion, so far as you have the means of judging of it, enable you to do away with that distinction between the Irish system and the English system?—I do not think public opinion would permit, if I may so say, anything like a distinction between the two classes, and I do not think that it would be safe to attempt such an alteration as entirely to do away with out-door relief, which I believe is the practice in Ireland.

6253. Are you aware whether in Ireland the workhouse system of itself is a stricter system than the workhouse system in England?—I understand so; I do not know it personally; I never was in any of the Irish workhouses.

6254. You have expressed an opinion that the power of removal cannot be safely taken away; in your opinion can the present law be improved?—I feel very great diffidence in offering an opinion on that subject.

6255. If you have any suggestions which you can make, the Committee will be happy to hear them, you being a gentleman of great experience?—It has always appeared to me an injustice upon those Irish ports referred to in the Act of Parliament, as places for Irish Poor to be removed to, to be compelled to receive such poor, inasmuch as they have no power to remove persons who are forwarded there from English parishes, and it has occurred to me that it would only be just to require removing parishes to deliver paupers on removal at their places of birth, or cause them to be delivered up at their places of birth, rather than leave them at the Irish ports.

6256. Then would you have the magistrates ascertain the place of birth, and should it thereupon become the duty of the removing parish or union to send the pauper all the way to the union workhouse to which that place belongs?—That is my opinion; I think also that a copy of the justices' order should in each case of removal be forwarded to the place of birth of the pauper removed.

6257. Would you have a notice given, as is the case when an order is made with an English pauper removed to a parish?—No, I do not know that I should suggest so far, but merely a statement of the grounds of removal of the paupers delivered with them when removed.

6258. And that he should be under the care of the Poor-law officer all the way to the union workhouse to which his place of birth belongs?—Yes, or some accredited agent in the various places in Ireland where they are landed.

6259. Have you any other suggestion to make with regard to the mode of executing orders of removal?—No, I do not feel myself competent to offer any opinion further.

6260. You have mentioned already the Irremovable Act as it is called; the Five years Act, could you safely abridge that period of five years so as to render a person

person irremovable at the end of a shorter period, say three years or two, for instance?—I do not feel that we could abridge it with any satisfaction, unless we had means of acquiring more proof of residence than we have at the present time.

6261. You do not entertain any clear opinion upon this point?—No.

6262. Have you any opinion with regard to the extension of the area from the parish or township to the union; yours is a township by itself, as we know?—It is.

6263. But have you considered the general question how far, with regard to places in union, you might extend the area to the same union, so that a certain number of years' residence in the same union should exempt a person from removability?—I think that that would be desirable; there are many large parishes which are parishes of themselves, and they are surrounded by extensive districts, which have grown up of late years, and circumstances have altered so much that I do not conceive that there would be any objection to allowing a poor man to gain a privilege, which should prevent his being removed from a place of that description. Frequently unions abut upon each other, in the midst of dense populations, where there are many inducements for a poor man to reside in different portions of one and the same town, although legally not considered so.

6264. You know many unions, in Cheshire, for instance, where there are a great many small parishes combined?—Yes.

6265. By the law, as it now stands, if a person went from one of those small parishes into the other, though having resided 5, 10, or 15 years in the first, his irremovability, as it is called, would be broken?—Just so.

6266. In your judgment would there be any reasonable objection, at all events, to making the area that of the union?—I do not think there would; on the contrary, I am of opinion, that it might be advisable.

6267. Is there any other suggestion with which you can favour us with reference to the subject of our inquiry?—No; I do not know that there is.

6268. Mr. *Maguire.*] You said that many of the Irish go away, and that you do not hear more of them; do you offer those persons relief in the workhouse?—In all cases where they are removable, but they decline to take it; they apply for relief, and the workhouse is offered.

6269. Do you find many persons decline it?—Great numbers decline the offer of the workhouse.

6270. For what reason?—I presume preferring to remain in England.

6271. If you gave them out-door relief they would be just as liable to be removed?—Yes; but it is not the practice in Manchester, and we should have some difficulty in finding them.

6272. Do you find the Irish poor anxious to go into your workhouse?—They are very anxious to remain when they are there.

6273. In the workhouse?—Yes.

6274. Is there a general desire to go into it?—I do not know that I am in a position to say that there is a desire to go into the workhouse; it is a question as to out-door relief and in-door relief; I do not see any particular anxiety to go into the workhouse.

6275. Are you of opinion that the Irish population is rather an advantage to Manchester than otherwise?—Yes; I am quite prepared to admit that that is the case.

6276. Through the existence of that population, the spirited manufacturers of Manchester are better able to carry on their competition with other nations of the earth?—I have no doubt that they are of very great service in reference to the labour which they contribute.

6277. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Do any large numbers of Irish come to you seeking for relief merely for the purpose of being relieved?—Not a very great many recently; there have been rather more the last year than the year before, as our removals testify; they were increased during the year ending 1854.

6278. Are your removals generally confined to people who have been a short time in the town?—They are. If I might be allowed, I could put in a table, showing the removals during the year, ending 25th March 1854, giving the number of families that have been removed after a residence of under one month; then one month and under two months; then two months and under three months, and so on up to 12 months; then one year and under two years; two years and under three; three years and under four; four years and under five. With the

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permission of the Committee, I will just make the following statement: The total number of families removed were 319; the number removed who had had a residence under 12 months were 210; the number removed who had resided one year and under two, were 42; two years and under three, 35; three years and under four, 14; four years and under five, 18; making a total of 319.

6279. That return refers to their residence in Manchester, without taking into consideration their residence in any other part of England?—Just so.

6280. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Are those Irish removals, or are there any Scotch removals in that list?—There were 12 Scotch families; they are included in the 319; there were 307 Irish cases removed, and 12 Scotch cases; the male adult Irish were 115, the female 219, making 334; and the Scotch were, males 7; females 9; making 16.

6281. Can you give the period of residence of those Scotch, the same as you do of the Irish?—No; we classify the Scotch and Irish together; there are so few Scotch that we do not take any particular account of them; we always separate them at the end of the year, merely as applies to the country.

6282. There are so few Scotch that you do not think it necessary to discriminate?—That is just the view which we take of it.

[*The Witness delivered in the following Paper:*]

(F.)

TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER.

IRISH and SCOTCH Passes.—Year ending 25 March 1854.

LEFT IRELAND OR SCOTLAND.

MONTHS.

Under 1.		1 and under 2.		2 and under 3.		3 and under 4.		4 and under 5.		5 and under 6.		6 and under 7.		7 and under 8.		8 and under 9.		9 and under 10.		10 and under 11.		11 and under 12.	
Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.
31	17	27	10	29	10	24	19	11	6	16	14	31	20	18	20	13	10	15	2	7	4	7	6
48		37		39		43		17		30		51		38		23		17		11		13	

YEARS.

1 and under 2.		2 and under 3.		3 and under 4.		4 and under 5.	
Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Children.
47	35	41	32	15	15	18	5
82		73		30		23	

Term of Residence.	Number of Passes.
Under 1 month - - -	31
1 month and under 2 - -	24
2 months and under 3 - -	25
3 „ „ 4 - -	25
4 „ „ 5 - -	10
5 „ „ 6 - -	14
6 „ „ 7 - -	27
7 „ „ 8 - -	16
8 „ „ 9 - -	12
9 „ „ 10 - -	14
10 „ „ 11 - -	7
11 „ „ 12 - -	5
TOTAL under 1 year - -	210
1 year and under 2 - -	42
2 years and under 3 - -	35
3 „ „ 4 - -	14
4 „ „ 5 - -	18
	319

Total Number of Passes, Irish - - - - - -		307
Ditto - ditto - Scotch - - - -		12
		319
Adults - Irish - - - - - -	334	
Ditto - Scotch - - - - -	16	
		350
Children - Irish - - - - -	219	
Ditto - Scotch - - - - -	6	
		225
		575
Male Adults, Irish - - - - - - -		115
Ditto - Scotch - - - - - -		7
Female Adults, Irish- - - - - - -		219
Ditto - Scotch - - - - - -		9
		350
Weekly Average Number of Passes - - - -		6
Weekly Average Number of Irish and Scotch families relieved out-door - - - - - - -		1,130

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6283. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Do the magistrates decide the cases of removal in their own houses or in open court?—In open court.

6284. Is it a special court for that purpose, or the petty sessions?—The petty sessions; they are taken with the other business.

6285. Mr. *Maguire.*] What is the gross number of the Irish in Manchester; I think you said 37,000; but does not that refer to a certain portion of Manchester?—That refers to natives of Ireland; that is from the census returns; the number of Irish persons resident in Manchester is far greater, but I do not know that we have any means of arriving at an approximation. I have heard it stated that in the township of Manchester, which may now contain a population of upwards of 190,000, there are 60,000 or 70,000 Irish; but I am not aware of any means of arriving at an accurate result. I think the Census Returns of 1851 do not show the number of persons.

6286. What do you mean by the township of Manchester, as distinguished from what I should call Manchester?—The township of Manchester, in our sense of the word, is Manchester proper. Manchester, as generally understood, embraces the townships of Chorlton, Ardwick, Hulme, and several other townships in other Poor-law unions, generally separated from Manchester proper by small streams merely. In the general expression of the word Manchester includes all the townships I have named.

6287. Using the general expression, what do you reckon to be the Irish population of Manchester, that is, taking those born in Ireland, and the descendants of those who have come from Ireland, but having themselves been born in Manchester?—I could not give any statement of the numbers.

6288. It is computed at from 70,000 to 100,000?—I have heard it stated by gentlemen of considerable experience, that the probability is that there are not less than 70,000 in Manchester proper.

6289. Then you still, of course, adhere to the view which you expressed before, namely, that Irish labour is very valuable to the industrial population?—The value of the Irish labour is admitted very freely in Manchester.

Charles Hilditch Rickards, Esq., called in; and Examined.

6290. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are Senior Vice-Chairman of the Manchester Board of Guardians?—I am.

C. H. Rickards, Esq.

6291. How long have you been a guardian?—Nearly 14 years.

6292. Are you also a magistrate for the city of Manchester?—I am.

6293. How long have you held that office?—About three years, I think.

6294. You have been present during the examination of Mr. Harrop, your clerk?—I have.

6295. And have heard that examination?—I have.

6296. Does your opinion concur with his as to the practicability of doing away with the power of removal of the Irish poor?—I agree with all that Mr. Harrop has

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has said, and I am afraid I can offer very little in addition to what he has stated.

6297. There are some suggestions, I believe, which you are desirous of offering in addition to what he has stated?—Perhaps I may be enabled to go a little more fully into the treatment of Irish cases at the Relief Board, because I have very rarely missed a week in taking my committee, and I shall be very glad to state the practice as I carry it out, and as I believe it is generally carried out.

6298. Will you be good enough to state generally what is your practice?—Supposing an Irishman who is removable to apply for relief, my first inquiry is to ascertain the man's character; the second, whether there is any probability of his getting work. If the application is in consequence of sickness, then of course we are bound to relieve him; but if the man's character is good, and he is merely out of work for a short time, or if there is any little depression in trade, any break-down in a factory, from machinery being deranged, the canal being off, or other similar circumstance, I never think of passing a case of that sort; I give relief. With the able-bodied, I accompany the relief with an order to our House of Industry, which is distinct from the workhouse. I should say, that, if it was a case of sickness, of course we should relieve at once. If an able-bodied person applies, whether he is an Irishman or an Englishman is perfectly immaterial, for I always endeavour to treat the cases as much alike as I can, making allowance for special circumstances. I make an order for relief, and give an order to our House of Industry; the person goes there at six o'clock in the morning, and with sufficient time for meals, remains till six o'clock at night, and is employed in grinding corn, or picking oakum, or a variety of occupations. I am now speaking from memory, but I believe that about 50 per cent. of the orders made for our House of Industry are not presented; that is, the people go away and the case is ended, so far as regards the application. I may state, that all Irish pass cases are brought before the guardians and heard. I have given especial instructions to the relieving officer, whose Board I take, that no attempt be made to pass a case without the sanction of the guardians.

6299. And have you reason to believe that those instructions are carried out?—I have not a doubt about it; I do not see them executed myself, but from the character of the relieving officer, who by the way is an Irishman, and a most excellent officer, I have no doubt that my instructions are fully carried out.

6300. Will you proceed with your statement?—I may state that, if the clothing of the persons about to be passed is very bad indeed, and if we have reason to believe that it has not been injured to aid the application, orders for additional clothing to cover nakedness and to protect them against the weather, are almost given invariably, where there is sickness or infancy. When the cases are left in Ireland, a certain amount of money is given to each, so that they may have something to start with, to make their way to the place of their birth; and when young children are passed, the officer takes them to the place to which we may say they belong. I believe they have no settlement in Ireland, but he takes them to the place to which they have the greatest natural claim.

6301. You told us that you were a magistrate also; you have been present, though probably, as a guardian, you would abstain from taking any part in any of these cases which have come before the magistrates for adjudication; how is that?—As a principle, myself and my friend Mr. Walker, who is our chairman, never interfere, except on some emergency; it requires two justices to sign an order, and when Mr. Maude, who is our stipendiary magistrate, has been alone, I have signed an order occasionally, but as a rule we always avoid it.

6302. Are those cases heard in open court?—The examination is read to the pauper; the pauper is then put in the box, and the questions are asked aloud by the clerk, as to whether the applicant has any settlement in England, and whether he has any objection to urge against being passed. If he has, Mr. Maude always hears it most patiently; there have been cases in which he has suggested that they should be re-heard, and I believe in almost every case attention has been paid to it; that is, the case has again come before the relief committee. I may, perhaps, further state that, under the present law, when the irremovability is broken by removal from the township where the party has resided for many years, I do not pass the case. The township of Manchester has a Board of Guardians for its own management; we are surrounded by Salford and Chorlton, and other unions, and very often parties will go and reside there, and by that means break

break their irremovability, and when they have been there for a year they apply for relief. Although we have a right to remove them, and if they were persons often chargeable or persons not of good character I should not hesitate to remove them, yet as a rule we do not. I do not know that I have any other information to offer to the Committee.

6303. Have you any suggestion to offer with regard to the improvement of the management in removal?—I cannot suggest any improvement in our own township beyond what Mr. Harrop has stated.

6304. Do you concur with him?—I do, decidedly.

6305. In thinking that the pauper ought to be taken to the union workhouse of the district where the justices find that he was born?—Yes; I think that that is an equitable principle, because it is only fair to suppose that the man is without means, and I think it would be wrong to leave him at any place short of that in which he says he was born.

6306. You object, I dare say, to leaving him on the sea-shore to find his way?—Most certainly; and I may, perhaps, be allowed to state that I have two or three cases in my mind at the present time, of young children who were orphans, and had no relations in Ireland; in them I have made orders for their being sent to our Training and Industrial Schools, at Swinton. The schools have been now open about seven or eight years; they belong entirely to the township of Manchester. The school was originally intended for a district one, but owing to some misfortune the wording of the Act of Parliament was not sufficiently clear, and we could not compel the guardians belonging to other unions to send their children; the children of all the unions within a circle of 15 miles were to have been sent to the school, but when we came to open the schools they declined so to do, and we could not compel them. We have now in the school about 600 children of our own, of whom one-third are Irish. There are 800 in the school; but I ought to inform the Committee that the other 200 belong to unions with whom we have since made private arrangements, with the sanction of the Poor Law Board.

6307. Does any further suggestion occur to you for the improvement of the management in removal?—I think it very desirable that, where circumstances will admit of it, all orders of removal should be approved by a stipendiary magistrate, and that where this cannot be accomplished, an officer without local interest be appointed by Government to act in a similar manner, and that all questions of disputed settlement should be decided by the same authorities.

6308. That, you think, might be a useful check?—Yes; not that I am aware in Manchester of any irregularity having occurred. I ought not to state, perhaps, from hearsay, but I have understood that elsewhere all Irish cases are passed that apply.

6309. However, as far as your own practice and experience go at Manchester, that is not the case?—No, certainly not.

6310. Are the Irish cases as carefully investigated in Manchester as the cases of English paupers?—Judging by my own experience and my own acts, I should say they were, most unquestionably.

6311. Mr. *Liddell.*] Is there a very large Irish population located in Manchester?—Yes; but there is a very great difference of opinion as to the extent of that population; different persons give different opinions. I know that some of the Roman-catholic clergy state (at least so I have understood, I have it not from themselves) that there are 60,000 or 70,000. I endeavoured a short time ago to arrive at some information by means of the return of the number of marriages in the township, but owing to our township of Manchester and the district of the registrar of births and marriages not being co-equal, I could not arrive at a certainty. Speaking from memory, I believe that the marriages in 1851, in Manchester (I have left out the other townships) at church, at the dissenting chapels, and at the Superintendent Registrar's Office, were 3,856; the Roman-catholic marriages were 572. But I may state that the clerk to the superintendent registrar told me that he had no doubt that a number of Roman-catholics were married at church and at the Registrar's Office; from this circumstance, that they were occasionally mixed marriages; that there were differences of opinion as to the mode of bringing upthe children, and that therefore Roman-catholic marriages did take place elsewhere than at the places of worship which the persons married generally attend.

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6312. Do the Irish population congregate a good deal in the same quarter?—They do.

6313. You find, I suppose, that new comers always find their way to that particular quarter?—Yes, unfortunately for Manchester, they do. As I said before, we are surrounded by Chorlton, Salford, and other townships, and unfortunately they find their way to Manchester, which contains almost the whole of them; the number of Irish in Salford and Chorlton is comparatively very small.

6314. With regard to the claims of the right of non-removability from industrial residence, do you find great difficulty in establishing the truth of those claims?—I do not like to say harsh things, or that it should appear that I have any prejudice, or anything of that sort, but I am afraid there is a great want of truthfulness on the part of the Irish population. I state that, not only upon the authority of my own experience, but upon the authority of my own relieving officer, he himself being an Irishman; and perhaps I may here state that our pass officer also is an Irishman. I may add, that Mr. Maude, our stipendiary magistrate, who pays a great deal of attention to these things, has every confidence that any suggestion which he makes in the case of an aged or young person is always attended to.

6315. *Chairman.*] By your officers?—By our officers.

6316. Mr. *Liddell.*] Then in deciding upon these claims to non-removability, do you practically find that there is great difficulty in verifying the facts of industrial residence?—I am afraid so.

6317. Where do they generally live?—My district is an Irish district. I ought to state, probably, as it may not be known to Honourable Members, that in Manchester we are allowed by the Poor Law Board to divide ourselves into relief committees; the number of cases is so large that it would be impossible for what we term our general Board to dispose of them. Therefore, the township being divided into districts, I take one; mine is St. George's district, and that is essentially an Irish district; St. Jude's also is essentially an Irish district.

6318. There is a considerable amount of the low population living in cellars, is there not?—I believe so.

6319. Are those mostly Irish?—I am afraid so; and the consequence is that we have a great deal of fever, and that the cases are confined almost entirely to the Irish. The fever that was introduced in 1847 has never left the township; since then we have built a permanent fever hospital. In 1847 and 1848 the expense of our accommodation was very large indeed; we had four or five old mills which were taken for the sick cases, namely, cholera and fever. The fever cases almost invariably came from the cellars, and the cases in our fever hospital are nearly all Irish. Within the last few years we have had a class of women, almost in the pains of labour, who come to the workhouse door and lie down there, and, of course, we take them in; they are principally Irish.

6320. Sir *J. Young.*] Are the cellars at a lower rent than the garrets?—Yes.

6321. It is from poverty then that the Irish choose the cellars?—Yes; they get there, their means being smaller.

6322. Mr. *Liddell.*] What is the class of labour in Manchester in which the Irish are principally employed?—Hand-loom weaving, which is almost exploded, but to which they adhere. To use one of our local phrases, they have a great disinclination to be "rung in by a bell"; they prefer domestic labour: tailors and shoemakers, mat-making and chip-selling, and matters of that sort. I have an opinion (it is not generally entertained by some of my friends) that the influx of Irish labour has been a benefit in one sense to the English labourer; that the Irish taking the lowest class of employment, at a smaller rate of wages, have compelled the English to seek, and to fit themselves for, better-paid work.

6323. From the competition?—From the competition. Our English cases in the last two or three years have decreased, while the Irish have increased.

6324. Do you mean cases of application for relief?—Yes; within the last three or four years.

6325. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] You spoke of the House of Industry; how is it maintained?—It is maintained out of the rates; it is a part of our establishment.

6326. You have Industrial Schools, also; are they maintained out of the rates?—Yes.

6327. What is the course of training which you adopt at those schools?—We endeavour to make them as industrial as we possibly can, but unfortunately we

are a little at variance with our school inspector; he looks more to mere mental culture than we think desirable. Perhaps I may be permitted to mention, in connexion with those schools, one advantage which I think arises from them, namely, that the English and Irish are mixed together; that in them there is no sectarian feeling allowed whatever. Our chaplain and head-master there (the Rev. James Losh) who is a most exemplary man, and one of the most faithful public servants I know, has often told me that when an Irish boy leaves that place it shall never be said that his religious feelings or principles have been interfered with at all; and I do not remember, on any occasion, ever to have heard of any altercation between the children. We have, at Swinton, a room set apart for the spiritual services of the Roman-catholic children, and a gentleman, a Romish clergyman, attends to them. Originally we paid him. I myself brought forward a proposition, when the schools were first opened, for the payment of the Irish minister, which I carried; but since then, I am sorry to say, circumstances have occurred which have prevented our paying him.

6328. He attends gratuitously?—He attends gratuitously; he walks from Bolton, a distance of four miles, and walks back again.

6329. Mr. *Liddell.*] Is that on the Sabbath?—Not only on the Sabbath, but I believe once or twice in the week.

6330. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] In addition to the mental culture of the children, what sort of labour is taught them?—We have 15 or 16 acres of land, and we have a bailiff, who instructs the boys in spade labour and in the culture of land generally. We have a number of cows, and generally 100 pigs, and the boys assist in their management. The girls' occupation is principally domestic; washing, and so on.

6331. Is there any mechanical labour?—Not much; we have always a boy or two with the engineer, and a boy or two with the carpenter.

6332. Is there any shoemaking? Yes; unfortunately too much of it. That is the general occupation in workhouses.

6333. Mr. *Liddell.*] Any weaving?—No; we do all we can to induce people to find more remunerative occupation than hand-loom weaving.

6334. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] After the children have completed their industrial training, do you send them as apprentices to trades?—We do; we have constant applications for boys, but unfortunately a very large proportion of the applicants are tailors or shoemakers. We are in this difficulty. The boys having no homes, we are obliged to find them homes; the manufacturers will not take children to find them homes, and to have the trouble of their supervision and future education, so that we are obliged to put them with small tradesmen; shoemakers and tailors. Occasionally, we are fortunate enough to get a boy taken by a tinman, a blacksmith, or something of that sort. With our girls, we are in a very unfortunate position. Perhaps I ought to state, that from returns (we have an officer who visits the masters) our boys are doing on the whole remarkably well; there are exceptions, of course. But with the girls, we are in this unfortunate position: we cannot bind them apprentices, and when a girl becomes 16 she is out of our control.

6335. Have you followed the history of any number of these children to see how they have turned out; for instance, take 100 boys; have you followed their history for any particular time?—Yes; the school has now been open between seven and eight years, and there must be apprentices now who are nearly out of their time. Our officer who visits is a very judicious man, and we have the very gratifying report that all are doing exceedingly well.

6336. Do you think that the boys generally turn out better than the girls?—I should not like to say that, because we cannot follow the girls; but my fears are that the girls do not turn out as well as the boys, from that cause alone; I have no positive proof of it, but merely an impression.

6337. Do you think it might be desirable to apprentice girls as domestic servants?—I do not think you would find that the middle classes would take them.

6338. Mr. *Ingham.*] You said that when an able-bodied person applied to you for relief, you gave him an order for the House of Industry?—Yes.

6339. Did you give a quantity of food in proportion at all to the amount of work which they do?—No, we endeavour to avoid that. Some of the people have that impression, and they repeatedly say, that they do not get remuneration suffi-

cient for their labour; but we endeavour to do away with that impression. When we send a person to the House of Industry we always give him more relief, because we take him from the streets, and prevent his getting casual occupation.

6340. You stated that the examination of Irish paupers took place in open court; will you describe a little more fully how the examination is conducted?—I speak with tolerable certainty, but not with the accuracy with which I should speak of a case at my own Relief Board, as I do not take a part in it; the examination is read over to the person in court, but not aloud to the public generally.

6341. It is a court to which the public are admitted?—Most certainly.

6342. The pauper goes into the box?—The pauper is put into the box, and asked aloud by the clerk a regular series of questions, always concluding with one as to whether he has any cause to show why he should not be removed.

6343. Mr. *Maguire.*] I understood your statement to proceed upon the fact, that you never interfere with the religion of the children in these schools?—No, we do not.

6344. Do you find that the attendance and the teaching of the Roman-catholic clergyman causes any inconvenience?—I am not aware that it does.

6345. Do you find that it produces a good result upon the character of the boys; I am speaking now of religious teaching?—Upon that I cannot speak.

6346. But you do protect their faith by consigning them to the teaching of a minister of their own religion?—Yes; on that point we are exceedingly particular. I may mention a circumstance which occurred the other day. We have a chaplain at the workhouse, and a chaplain at the school; I am chairman of the visiting committee of our workhouse, and in looking over the chaplain's report, which is presented every week, I saw that he had down the name of an English child of Roman-catholic parents; the parents were dead, and he had the impression that, under those circumstances, the child ought to be brought up in the principles of the Established Church.

6347. As the religion of the State?—Yes; I immediately called the attention of the committee to it, and I suggested that the clerk should write to the chaplain to request him to attend the committee the week following, which he did, and a special direction was given that no interference whatever should take place. We are very jealous of the Roman-catholics, and on that principle we carry it out equitably and fairly between the two.

6348. *Chairman.*] What do you mean by "jealous of the Roman-catholics"?—They have strong religious convictions, they think that people who differ from themselves are in error.

6349. Mr. *Maguire.*] Did I rightly understand you as making the accusation of want of truthfulness, as a characteristic of the Irish population of Manchester?—On the authority of my relieving officer, himself an Irishman, I say yes to that question.

6350. Have you much experience of the Irish population in Manchester?—Only of the poorest class. I have to say distinctly that the class I see are of course the lowest; and I beg to state likewise that we find deception in other classes, but not to the extent that we do in the Irish.

6351. Your relieving officer is an Irishman?—No, not strictly.

6352. You said that he was an Irishman: he is of Irish parents?—Clearly.

6353. Another officer is an Irishman?—Yes.

6354. Do not you find each of those as reliable as an Englishman is, in the same situation?—Thoroughly; I mean to state that most distinctly. I have my own feelings, and am, perhaps, a little prejudiced. I, consequently, may have been a little more on the alert; but I think it only fair to state that, on a variety of occasions, when those two officers have been placed in little difficulties of that sort, they have behaved with the greatest impartiality.

6355. Have you any knowledge of the Irish industrial class in Manchester?—I am not an employer of labour myself, but I have made an inquiry about them; I have no personal knowledge.

6356. Is the information which you have received such as would justify you in asserting that the want of truth is a characteristic of them?—I have not heard any opinion expressed on that point, but simply as to their capacity for labour, and their application.

6357. As regards their capacity and their means of labour, are not they on a par

par with the English?—They have great natural capacity, but they have not the same application.

6358. Do not you think it rather unfair to charge a whole population, which amounts, according to your computation, to 37,000, and according to the computation of some persons, to 70,000, with a want of truthfulness, you having only experience of the very lowest?—My intention was not to condemn the whole class of people.

6359. Did not you use the word "population"?—I do not remember.

6360. In the answer which you gave some time since, as to the want of truthfulness being a characteristic of the Irish population, you referred entirely to the poor?—Certainly; and I have in my pocket a letter from my relieving officer expressing that opinion.

6361. *Chairman.*] And I think you said before, that your opinion upon that point was formed from the information which you had derived from the relieving officer?—Yes.

6362. Mr. *Maguire.*] You stated that there was a general assertion that, in one place (you did not say which it was), all Irish were passed who applied; what place was that?—That is mere hearsay, therefore I should feel a great disinclination to answer the question.

6363. Have you heard it said several times?—Yes.

6364. By what class of persons?—By poor-law officials.

6365. Reliable persons?—I have not a doubt on my own mind that that is the case.

6366. That they have been sent over indiscriminately?—I have not a doubt of it.

6367. I believe a large number of Irish are employed in the factories in Manchester?—They are.

6368. And a great number of Irish girls are in the factories?—I have no doubt of it.

6369. Does the same apply to Salford?—I should presume so; the trade of the two townships is very similar.

6370. Do you know whether the Irish girls have a peculiar aversion to work?—I should not say so, but the contrary.

6371. Do you know that they are very generally employed?—Certainly.

6372. Are you not of opinion that the Irish labour in Manchester is a source of its wealth?—I have not a doubt of it.

6373. And of its power of competing with foreign countries?—Not a doubt of it.

6374. That the presence of that large amount of labour makes a considerable difference?—I have not a doubt of it.

6375. Would you send over an Irish person who had lived, say for 10 years, in the country, and had been engaged in industrial employment all that time, though he had lived in various places?—That is a difficult question to answer; I would not do so if the proof could be established that he had been industriously employed, but there is the great difficulty.

6376. If the law were abrogated as far as the Englishman was regarded, do you think it fair that the law should still exist as far as the Irishman was regarded?—My desire is to apply the same rules to the Irish as to the English.

6377. If it were thought expedient that the law should be abolished, as far as the English were regarded, you, in your spirit of fairness, would not think it should be retained as far as the Irish were regarded?—Certainly not.

Robert Pashley, Esq., called in; and Examined.

6378. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are a Gentleman of the Bar, and one of Her Majesty's Counsel?—I am.

6379. Have you had, professionally, great experience with regard to Poor-law questions?—Yes; I have had, ever since I was called to the bar, a good deal of professional experience on most questions arising upon the English Poor-law; and before I was called to the bar, as far back as 1831, I happened, from a personal acquaintance with the late Lord King and Mr. Malthus, to have my attention much drawn to the English Poor-law, and to consider its then state, before the passing of the Poor-law Amendment Act, and to take a great interest in it on the

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passing of that Act in 1834. Three years afterwards I was called to the bar, and it happened to me to fall into a considerable share of that sort of practice, and to attend Sessions for many years, both in the West Riding of Yorkshire and in Middlesex. Therefore I had a good deal of experience, both professionally and non-professionally, as to what the law is, and what it ought to be.

6380. I believe you are the author of a work on Pauperism and Poor-laws?—I published a work on Pauperism and Poor-laws in 1852. Since that time my attention has been very much directed to the question of the removal of the Irish poor from England. Communications were made to me after I published my book, by Dr. Alison and Lord Monteagle, both strongly urging the entire abolition of the power of removing the Irish poor, and from that time till now I have given a good deal of attention to the question.

6381. Your attention, I believe, has been drawn to it again with reference to the inquiries of this Committee?—Yes, I have looked a little more into it since the Committee was appointed; and I should say that my knowledge of the subject has been derived, not merely from Acts of Parliament, and discussions upon them, but from visiting workhouses in England, and analogous institutions in other countries. I have done my best to consider the whole question of pauperism.

6382. You are aware that the subject of our inquiries is as to the operation of the Acts regulating what may be called international removals; the removals from England and Scotland to Ireland, and from Scotland to England?—Just so.

6383. Have you formed an opinion as to how far it may be practicable to do away with the power of removal of the Irish from England?—I have considered that question; and I think, perhaps, the best way of making my views understood, would be first briefly to state to the Committee what the course of legislation has been. The commencement of the existing legislation is the 59th of George the 3d, the Act of 1819. I think it is convenient to refer for a moment to the law which alone governed the removal of the Irish from England previously to 1819. I say the Irish; because, as to the Scotch, it is not worth while to consider them, the proportion has always been so small in comparison with that of the Irish, that the decision as to the Scotch must follow that of the Irish; it is not possible to make any great change with respect to the latter without the former being included. The first Act of Parliament which seems to me of any importance on the subject, is the 14th of Elizabeth, chap. 5. That was an Act for the punishment of vagabonds, and for the relief of the poor and impotent; and it provided, by sections 33 and 34, for transporting back to the Isle of Man, or to Ireland, any Manx or Irish rogues, vagabonds, or beggars, at the common charge of the county where they were set on land, and they were to be transported to those parts from which they came. The Committee will observe, that so transporting a man to the place from which he came is for a crime; it is criminal legislation; it is only those who commit a crime, punishable by law, that are subject by this Act of Parliament to transportation to Ireland.

6384. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Is begging a crime under that statute?—Yes, they are liable to punishment; begging is a crime. I may say that, throughout the reign of Queen Elizabeth, there were great attempts made to repress mendicity. The next Act is the 17 Geo. 2, c. 5, "An Act to amend and make more effectual the laws relating to rogues, vagabonds, and other idle and disorderly persons, and to houses of correction," and it contains two clauses on this subject relating to the Irish and the natives of the Isle of Man, and extending its operations to Jersey, Guernsey, and Scilly. They are to be conveyed back "to such place as such ship, vessel, or packet-boat shall be bound to or shall arrive at." A man coming from Cork might be sent to Belfast if the vessel happened to go there, or to any other port if she happened to arrive and land there. The Committee will observe that it still applies to vagabonds; and from that time, the 17th of George the Second, down to 1819, it is only persons who are liable to punishment that are to be sent to Ireland; they are to be whipped, and so forth in England, and then sent to Ireland. And the Committee will observe that this legislation does not at all imprison the man in Ireland; it merely says that he shall be sent there, and leaves him at liberty to come back the next day; it does not provide what the very same Act provides for the English poor: that if they, on removal, come back to the place from which they are to be sent, then that is made an offence punishable by imprisonment. The Irishman is at liberty, by law, to come back to England, as far as the 17th George the Second is concerned, and to come back to England

to

to the very place from which he is sent, the very day h gets to Ireland, if he is removed to Ireland. But under that Act of Parliament it was not the course to remove him to Ireland; the parties were sent to the coast, and whether they got on board the ship or not was very doubtful; they often got back to the parish from which they were sent, even before the officer returned who had been charged with conveying them. I would just draw the attention of the Committee to the circumstances under which the Act of the 59th George the Third, which first modified this legislation, was passed. The attention of the Committee has no doubt been drawn to the 59th George the Third, which first rendered an Irishman resident in England liable to be removed from the place where he thought fit to reside, and where he might have resided for half a century, back to Ireland, for merely asking for relief; the mere fact of poverty subjected him to removal to his native country.

6385. Asking for relief from a parochial authority?—Yes, what is often called legal charity; namely, that provison which the law makes to prevent death from starvation. If a man in danger of death from starvation asked for relief, the moment he got a loaf of bread or a sixpence from a parish officer, he was liable to be removed to Ireland. That was never the case from the time of the Statute of 14th Elizabeth, passing down to 59th George the Third; there had been no necessity found for it; there had been no suggestion of such a thing as worth providing for, and it was not till 1819 that the thing was done. I have been at some pains to see when the first suggestion was made; I am not sure that I have found the first, but I believe the first suggestion was made in the Report of a Select Committee of the House of Commons of 1817, at page 27.

6386. *Chairman.*] Is that what is called Mr. Sturges Bourne's Committee?—I think that was in 1819; I am not sure Mr. Sturges Bourne had a Committee in 1817; I am not sure whether this is a Committee of his; it is very likely that it was so; he was the person who the most exerted himself upon the subject at the time. At page 27 the Committee report: "With respect to such poor persons who, not being natives of England, may be without a settlement, the influx of them to particular places has been so great and oppressive, that the Committee think provision should be made for passing such persons, upon their application for parochial relief, to the nearest ports or places from which they may return to their native country; but that any native of the British Empire shall acquire a settlement in any parish in which he may have resided five years without being chargeable." I draw the attention of the Committee to the last words of that paragraph, because it seems that the Committee, when proposing this change in the law, felt that in inflicting this grievance on the Irish population in England, they ought at the same time to give them a little more facility in acquiring a right to stay here. They proposed that a mere residence of three years should give a settlement to either a Scotchman or an Irishman, so that the very Act of Parliament which they proposed to pass, subjecting the Irish to the liability to removal, was found to contain a provision that would enable those who had staid three years in a parish to have a right to remain there.

6387. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Was there ever any doubt whether, under the Act of 14th Elizabeth, a foreigner was entitled to relief?—There never has been the slightest doubt of the law. I am not aware that any one has expressed a doubt. The law was always perfectly clear that everybody, without the slightest reference to whether he was a native of Scotland or Ireland, or an English colony, or France, or Germany, or any other part of the world, was just as much entitled to relief under the provisions of the statute of Elizabeth as a native-born Englishman; and it is also clear, though not so well understood, that he is equally entitled to that relief in the place where he becomes destitute as in the parish of his settlement; the law gives him a right to relief wherever he is destitute.

6388. *Chairman.*] I believe some question was raised about it before Lord Ellenborough?—Yes.

6389. And did not Lord Ellenborough say, referring to Lord Holt, "We are bound to believe, in justice to the memory of Lord Holt, that he never uttered such a sentiment, as that a foreigner might be left to starve."?—As the Chairman reminds me, the question was raised in a case in East's Reports, whether a foreigner was entitled to relief; it was denounced as a thing not to be heard of for a moment, that the statute did not intend to prevent the death of a foreigner from starvation as well as of an Irishman or an Englishman. It therefore follows that from 1819 we have subjected the

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Irish and Scotch, and people from the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, to removal, though natives of all the rest of the world are not liable to such removal. This 59th of George the 3d, then, is founded upon this Report; but the statute certainly does nothing towards increasing the right of an Irishman to stay here, by reason of an industrial residence, or otherwise. Instead of its extending the sphere of settlement, and increasing the power of acquiring a settlement, it restricts that power. For instance, take a settlement by renting a tenement; with respect to the Irish, that perhaps, in London, is the easiest mode in which they could acquire a settlement. I say this, from my own experience in courts of law, because in some years' practice I have found that a large proportion of the questions of settlement by renting a tenement, arising in London, have arisen on a question of 40 days' occupation of some single room, or a couple of rooms, at 4 *s.* a week, which before a certain day in the summer of 1819 gave a settlement; that was a sort of thing which a mechanic in good employment in London might easily acquire, and it was acquired to a very considerable extent. The Legislature comes in 1819, and restricts this head of settlement to an occupation for a whole year to the actual payment of 10 *l.* rent, not the payment of 4 *s.* a week for six weeks, which was enough previously to give the power of acquiring a settlement. I may add, in a word, that all the subsequent legislation, as those Members of the Committee who are familiar with it will remember, has restricted the power of acquiring a settlement. The 6th of George the 4th has still further restricted it. In the 1st of William the 4th, in 1830, it undergoes another restriction. The Poor Law Amendment Act makes another restriction, in the payment of rates for a whole year, as well as the other conditions; therefore there are now five different kinds of settlement by renting a tenement, and that power which was possessed before 1819 has been very much restricted. Other heads of settlement were wholly abolished in 1834. I mention this, to show that the right of staying here is very much diminished.

6390. Is there any other Act to which you think it important to call our attention, before we come to the 8th and 9th Victoria?—Perhaps the Committee will consider it convenient that I should draw their attention to the Acts as they were passed. As I have said, an Act was passed in 1819; at that time the condition of both England and Ireland was extremely different from what it is now, as appears by the several reports made in 1817, 1818, and 1819, by Committees of both Houses. There was a strong feeling of the immense pauperism, and the fact was that pauperism in the agricultural districts had increased very greatly; it was not, however, remedied by anything which was done till 1834. The condition of Ireland was such, that from 1807 to 1817 there had been 3,376,000 *l.* of additional annual taxation imposed, and 360,000 *l.* remitted; there having been a total increase of estimated revenue of 3,000,000 *l.* a year, and yet the revenue of Ireland in 1817 was only 4,191,950 *l.*, against the larger sum of 4,378,241 *l.* in 1807. I mention those prominent facts, as calling to one's recollection the extreme prostration in point of everything connected with pauperism in both countries at that time. Now in England, at that time also, the relief of the poor in 1817, with a population of 11,000,000, was 6,959,249 *l.*, and it was still more in 1818 and 1819, being more than 7,000,000 *l.* in each year, for a population averaging only a little more than 11,000,000; whereas even in 1831 and 1832, just before the Poor-law Amendment Act passed, the annual expenditure for the relief of the poor for a population of about 14,000,000, was less than 7,000,000 *l.*; less than 10 *s.* a head. It had been much larger in 1817, 1818, and 1819, with wheat during those three years averaging something more than 80 *s.* a quarter. Those are the circumstances which seem to me to explain the introduction of the two clauses in Sturges Bourne's Act, the 59th George the Third. That Act of Parliament, the Committee is well aware, does very little really to relieve the pauperism of the country, although it provides for the payment of assistant overseers; and provides for a fresh organization of parish vestries in certain parishes. The Committee of the House of Commons did not then know how to deal with the pressure of pauperism, which was so great; and it was not till the inquiry in 1832 and 1833, that a substantial reform was devised, showing it to be possible to administer relief by the State on such conditions that the recipient was not deteriorated by it; that the State, by a general law, might save the destitute from starvation without destroying or impairing the character of the industrial population of the country.

6391. What is the next Act to which you think it desirable to draw the attention of the Committee?—The 3d and 4th William the 4th, but I would just make

make one observation on the 59th George the 3d, or rather, I would mention one actual case which has occurred under it, as an indication of the sort of thing which may happen. Under the 59th of George the 3d, chapter 12, this case occurred,—The King *v.* Benett, which is in 2d Barnewall & Adolphus, page 712, An Irishwoman, aged 18, had a bastard child born in England on the 23d of March 1831. On the 6th of May in the same year an order was applied for to the justices to remove her to Ireland, and the magistrates refused to remove her. A mandamus was applied for, and the court gave judgment, in which they said, "The statute authorises and requires the justices to remove to Ireland the mother who has not gained any settlement in England, but it gives them no power to remove the child, which has acquired a settlement there by its birth. There may undoubtedly be hardship in removing the mother without the child, but that must be submitted to, for the Act is imperative. The rule, therefore, must be made absolute as to the removal of the mother, and discharged as to that of the child." The Committee see that at that time, the mere birth in Ireland made a person liable to removal, although she had a child six weeks old, who must stay in England. The 3d and 4th William the 4th was passed with a knowledge of such hardships. The 3d and 4th William the 4th is merely a temporary Act; it passed the year before the great Poor Law Amendment Act of England, and probably the passing of that Act was foreseen, and therefore it was only meant as a temporary measure, and it was felt that if passed it might be a palliative. The 3d and 4th William the 4th was founded on two reports of Committees of the House of Commons. I think it convenient to name those two reports, because they give the foundation on which that Act of Parliament passed; those reports were made in 1828 and in 1833. The report of 1828 shows very shortly the effect of the 59th George 3d; it shows this, that it cost in removing each pauper from London to Liverpool on the way to Ireland, for most of them went by way of Liverpool, 4*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.* That was the sum spent in the removal, somewhat more than an inside place in the mail-coach which then went to Liverpool. It was also proved to the Committee that many persons in the actual possession of considerable sums of money applied for parochial relief, rather than pay the expense of their journey out of their earnings. Perhaps I may properly state here that I believe that has continued a good deal under the present law down to this time; that there is a certain proportion of those who go to Ireland going with their own consent, and applying for relief, when they have earned wages. There is a premium held out to them to come over here, as they can get a removal back to Ireland either by giving the money which they have saved to another person or by secreting it and applying to the parish as if they were in destitution, their object being to get a pass to Ireland. I have been informed by relieving officers, and others, that it is not unfrequently necessary to apply the test of the workhouse for three or four weeks, in order to satisfy themselves that the pauper does not want to go to Ireland. I have heard in Yorkshire, and the North of England, that it is often necessary to see that it is not a desire to go to Ireland which prompts them. In the great majority of cases it is quite obvious that the going to Ireland is the last thing they wish; they dread it extremely; but there are cases in which the Act of Parliament works injuriously in that way. The Committee suggest, in the report of 1828, that there would be "but little equity in calling upon the depressed population of England to afford to the natives of the two other parts of the empire that relief to which they would not be entitled in Ireland or Scotland; and at a time when there is a want of employment amongst the poor of our own country, there would seem to be no great reason for holding out such an additional encouragement to the immigration of the Irish labourer." The Committee conclude by recommending, "the entire repeal of those laws by virtue of whose enactments the natives of Scotland or of Ireland are passed, at the expense of England, and some alteration of those under which they are enabled to claim parochial relief in the country." Now, a great part of what is said here is just as applicable to the administration of the law under the 8th & 9th Victoria, as it was under the 59th George 3d; a premium being held out for persons to come to England, and there being a facility of getting back by an order. The next report was in the year 1833. A Committee of the House of Commons also suggested "that the recommendation of the former Committee," which I have just read, "would prove an effectual remedy 'for the evil complained of,' if the law were so far altered as to deprive the Irish and Scotch pauper of any claim to parochial relief in England; otherwise the effect would be

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to increase the burthen on particular parishes, which would, under the present law, be compelled to maintain all these persons as casual poor. It does not appear to your Committee that there would be any injustice in an alteration of the law to this extent, inasmuch as an Irish or Scotch pauper would be placed in no worse condition in England than he is in his own country." Probably the Committee would hardly think it reasonable to have two laws in England, to have a personal law for the Saxon, and another for the Celt. It would take us back some hundreds of years; it reminds us of the co-existence of the Roman law and the Gothic or Frank law, in the same country of the continent; of the co-existence of the English law and the Brehon law in Ireland, when a party could plead in a case of murder, that the man murdered was an Irishman, and therefore that the offence was not a felony. The Committee, in 1833, suggested two personal laws for England, one for Englishmen and the other for Irishmen, on the ground that the Irish were not entitled to relief in Ireland. But at the present day, it being a duty to give relief by the public officer to destitute persons in Ireland, the argument, as far as it goes, would be rather in favour of allowing relief in England to the same individuals as would obtain it in Ireland, where they could not be removed at all. The Committee will observe, that the great expense under the 59th George the 3d is not likely to be mitigated by anything in the 3d & 4th William the 4th. That expense arose undoubtedly, as is sufficiently shown by the evidence given before the Committee on the Law of Settlement in 1847, Mr. Charles Buller's Committee, from this, that the parish could do, what some parishes then did, and which has been mentioned to-day as being done by some parishes now. The moment a man asked for relief, on the first shilling being given to him they obtained an order for removal to Ireland; it did not cost the parish more than 1 *s.* 6 *d.* or 2 *s.* 6 *d.*; the whole burthen was thrown on the county rate, and the removals were wantonly obtained. Nothing was done in the 3d & 4th William 4th to remedy that, and the removals continued as numerous as before. When the 8th & 9th Victoria passed, the burthen was thrown on the guardians applying for the order, or on the parish, and when they had a pound or two to pay for removal to Ireland, there was a diminution in the number of removals: 60, 70, 80, or 90 per cent. were struck off in some parishes, when this burthen was imposed upon obtaining the order.

6392. At present, I believe, the parish or union pays the expense, except in a few cases?—Yes; under the present Act the guardians, or the parish, are to pay the expense unless the parish has less than a certain population; the 5th section provides, that if the population does not exceed 30,000 the burthen is to be thrown on the county rate. The Committee are aware that, practically speaking, the Irish are located in populous districts; they are located in London, which consists of very populous parishes or unions; in Liverpool and Manchester, and in other large populations; wherefore this clause is not of much practical importance; if it were, the moment you give authority to remove at the expense of another, you would have every kind of hardship and oppression, and all the evils which existed under the old law, will exist under this clause wherever it is applied. There is not the slightest doubt that there must be very great hardship and oppression in the execution of such a law, although I have no doubt that in Manchester and some other towns the officers would give a very conscientious account of the way in which they remedy the law, by doing many things which the law never requires, such as giving money when the paupers land in Ireland, taking care that children are conveyed to the very places to which they should be conveyed. Still, no parish officers will treat the Irish better than the English, and since the English have the power of appeal, and the matter can be brought into the courts of justice, which practically cannot be done with the Irish, we know they are in a worse position than the English; and yet there is a good deal of hardship in the general administration of the removal law, even as to the English poor.

6393. With respect to the 8th and 9th Victoria, the present law, I asked you whether you had formed an opinion as to how far it was practicable and desirable to do away with the power of removal?—I think it might be done away with perfect safety, and I think if there had been no legislation on the subject, and it had now been proposed to remove the Irish, in the present condition of the two countries the proposition would have been scouted throughout the whole country by every person whose opinion was worth listening to. I know it

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is very different when you have the thing existing. When a parish officer has been used to deal with the Irish in a certain way, he looks upon doing away with his power as a thing which would shake the foundations of society. I think, myself, that the power of removal may be abolished with perfect safety, and that the alterations in the law which would be needed on its abolition are obvious and simple; but some would be needed, no doubt.

6394. Your original view, I think, was not quite consistent with this, as expressed in your work on Pauperism and Poor Laws?—I was there dealing with the removal of the English poor. I had not attended specially to the question of the Irish poor, and therefore had no wish to say a word about it. I, however, thought it necessary just to say a word in passing, and I said, *obiter*, that the removal of the Irish might be retained. Now, although I proposed to abolish entirely the law of settlement and the removal of the English poor, I knew that there was generelly a tendency in the great towns to oppose the repeal; and therefore, from a wish not to deal with the two questions, I made the observation that the Irish removals might be retained. My attention was very earnestly called to the matter by Lord Monteagle in an able letter upon the subject, and by one or two other persons, and I at once, upon certain facts being drawn to my attention, thought that I was clearly wrong, and immediately said so. Dr. Alison discussed the question in a pamphlet, which I have here, read before the Dublin Statistical Society, at a meeting at Belfast, on the present state of the law of settlement and removal of paupers in Scotland. Dr. Alison's pamphlet, on drawing my attention to the subject, established this conclusion in my own mind, that every argument, or nearly so, which applies to the question of removing the English poor applies also to the question of removing the Irish. It is reasoning about what a good many people think is now established by the different inquiries which have been made upon the subject, that you ought not to do away with the removal of the English poor without at the same time doing away with the removals of the Irish. I may mention the ground which is taken by Adam Smith, and which is generally referred to in discussing this question of removing the poor, that it is contrary to natural justice to remove a man from a place where he is desirous of exercising his industry and comes to exercise it, and where he may have exercised it for half his life; and I do not see how it is possible, on the ground of justice, to distinguish between the one case and the other. At all events it would be at least as just, if you carried out that principle, to put a Welshman under the same law as an Irishman, and to draw a line round Wales and say that you would remove every Welshman to Wales, although you abolished the law as to the removal of the English poor.

6395. Would you make the cost of the Irish, if they were rendered irremovable, a charge upon the union or parish, or would you, in some way, have recourse to Ireland itself?—I should not myself put a shilling of the expense of maintaining the poor on Ireland till Ireland paid all other taxes, as much as England does. I do not see any peculiar advantage in placing any part of the burthen of maintaining those persons who happen to have been born in Ireland on Ireland; Ireland does not, to this moment, pay taxes on everything, income and property tax, and other things, in exactly the same way as the rest of the country, and until Ireland is in such a state, and its social condition is such that you can tax it just as you do Great Britain, I should not think it worth while to put that charge upon Ireland; but still I think there is no difficulty in doing it.

6396. What practical remedy would you suggest?—It is very much what I have already suggested with respect to the best mode of raising the fund for relieving the English poor. I should think that if you could preserve the same careful administration of relief to the poor in the hands of persons not appointed by local authority, a national provision would be the right one; but being strongly of opinion that you must have a local interest kept up, I should propose such a distribution of the burthen of maintaining the poor as should equalise it as far as you could consistently with keeping up the local interest; in other words, I should let every parish provide one-third of the cost of relieving its poor, and let the remaining two-thirds be paid by an equal contribution over the whole country.

6397. Over England?—That would be my plan for the relief of the English poor. I think there would not be any objection to it at all, and one would never want to do the wider thing, if the first was the right step and accomplished the object. Therefore I would take at present the English poor, that is, all persons

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who became destitute here, wherever they were born, and I would provide for their relief by a rate on England; one-third of that relief should be borne by the parish that gave the relief, and two-thirds by a general rate. The machinery for this, I have already pointed out in my book on Pauperism and Poor Laws; that it would not be at all expensive or troublesome, and that we have a very convenient machinery for doing it. I would have the same in Scotland, and I would have the same in Ireland, as a very great improvement, both present and future, for all the three countries. I have stated in print the grounds on which I think it would be an immense improvement in England; and with respect to this present question of the Irish poor, I think it more strongly desirable to adopt that reform than any other, and for this reason, that the Irish always have, and probably always will, as long as they immigrate into this country, come to a few districts where there are great manufactories and populous towns; they do not locate themselves much in agricultural districts. That has been the case ever since the question of Irish removals at all arose, and it is likely to continue. Therefore, you have a large body of Irish people in the town of Manchester, a great many thousands, and in certain parishes in London; their habits are not the same as those of the English labourers; they do not feed so well, and they are to be found in a destitute neighbourhood and congregating in the lowest locality. Theirs is the lowest labour; the hodman is an Irishman, while his master is an Englishman, and seven out of 10 of those doing the common labour down this river are Irish. Those men frequent the worst localities, and the cheapest lodgings. If you look at the returns for a very small number of parishes, you will see that they are contributing nine-tenths of the removals of Irish poor. Some 20 or 30 parishes contain them all, and with the pressure of Irish pauperism concentrated in a few parishes, the mode of relief which I suggest would be an easy one, and it would enable those parishes to be relieved from such a pressure. It is said in the parish of St. Marylebone, "Take away the power of removal, and we shall have our poor-rates increased." To some extent I have no doubt that that would be so; but the burden would be distributed very equally by taking two-thirds from the local parish and laying it over the country; or if it were thought better to take the two-thirds, and to make Ireland pay it, if thought that in the present condition of Ireland she could very well pay it, nothing would be easier than that every Irish electoral division should contribute in proportion to its net rental to a fund to be administered in Dublin, of 20,000*l.*, or 30,000*l.*, a year, or whatever it might be, it could not be a very great sum to meet these claims from English parishes.

6398. Does your plan contemplate, ultimately, an assimilation of the Poor-law in the three countries?—Yes; my plan would, I think, necessarily assimilate that law very much. I may mention, with respect to Scotland, what I have been told by a person well able to give an opinion upon the subject, Professor More, of Edinburgh, who has taken an interest in the administration of the Poor-law there; and, with your permission, I will read to the Committee an extract from a letter which I received from him some time ago respecting Scotland, and the way in which such an alteration would work there: "You are probably aware that in Scotland, till a comparatively recent period, most of our parishes supported their poor by mere voluntary contributions, and without assessment. There are still upwards of 200 parishes, being about one-fifth of the whole parishes of Scotland, in which there is no legal assessment for the poor:" The Committee is aware that it is left to the parishes to assess or not, as they think fit, "but where they are supported (in a very miserable way) by collections made at the church doors, and by other voluntary contributions. In 1845, when the present system of Poor-law was introduced, only 230 parishes were assessed, and 650 supported their poor by voluntary contributions; but in 1852, 671 parishes were assessed, and only 211 supported their poor by voluntary contributions; and till these 211 parishes are assessed their poor will never be adequately supported. I am of opinion that in Scotland the plan you have proposed would work admirably, and would be attended with no injustice to any parish; and here it would be very desirable that the Government should make the experiment, both of abolishing the Law of Settlement, and of having recourse to a uniform rate of assessment, on the plan you propose. I have no doubt that if this were tried here, its beneficial influence would soon recommend it for adoption in England." Professor More thinks that this plan would give a great facility for introducing a measure for compulsory assessment throughout Scotland. It is obvious that by adopting my plan no parish would have any very great burthen in comparison with what other

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parishes would have; each would only pay one-third of its actual expenditure, and an equal proportion of a general rate.

6399. Would your view be, with respect to Scotland, that the poor should be maintained wherever they become destitute, and that the fund should be raised by a certain proportion levied over the locality, and the rest contributed by the country at large?—Yes; just in the same way as for England.

6400. And again, you would by and by come to that for Ireland?—Yes, I think so. Perhaps it is not so important for Ireland as it is for either England or Scotland. But I think it would be better that the Poor Law should raise the relief fund on the same principle in the three countries. It would be better to leave the power belonging to the Poor-law Board, to the Board of Supervision, and to Commissioners sitting in London, Edinburgh, or Dublin, to make regulations as to workhouses, diet, and the whole administration of relief, inasmuch as there is a sufficient difference in the circumstances of the three countries, and in the habits of the people of the three countries, to make it desirable to leave all that separate for each country. But as to the mode in which the fund should be raised, I see no reason why it should not be uniform for the whole of Great Britain and Ireland, and many reasons why it should.

6401. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Do you carry your proposal for assimilation to the extent of doing away with the exclusion of the able-bodied from relief in Scotland?—Certainly I should go that length, after the result of our experience of the Statute of Elizabeth, and after the proof which has been obtained since 1834, that you can afford relief to the able-bodied, and accompany it with conditions rendering it not injurious to the person receiving it. And I think the Poor-laws will never be placed on a satisfactory footing in the United Kingdom unless the principle of your legislation is substantially the same throughout.

6402. That is an essential part of your scheme?—I should propose it, but when I remember how extremely reluctant many persons in Scotland are in that respect, and that even the 8th and 9th Victoria, chapter 83, was very much opposed, I dare say there would be a great outcry in Scotland against giving any relief whatever to the able-bodied.

6403. You are aware that in Scotland, practically, there is very little actual removal?—Yes; but still I cannot conceive how there can be any sense or reason in abolishing the law of settlement in England, and leaving the system in existence in Scotland. If it be well to abolish the law of settlement in England and to allow a free circulation of labour in England, and to give a man a right to relief in case of destitution, I am quite at a loss to see anything in the condition of Scotland which makes it necessary or expedient to have a different law there.

6404. Does not the restraint on the transfer of labour in England arise very much from able-bodied being objects of relief, and consequently subject to removal?—That must be so, certainly, to some extent.

6405. *Chairman.*] Is there any other suggestion which you wish to make, or other information which you are desirous of giving to the Committee?—I was about to mention to the Committee a few other facts, and some the result of inquiry from relieving officers. One I will mention now, with reference to what one of the gentlemen here this morning said. He stated, what drew the attention of the Committee, that the number of orders was 350, we will say for the workhouse and pass, and that the number of people who came into the workhouse, or were passed, was about one-third or half that number; therefore, a great many, as he said, abstained from being relieved any more. Now if that is put into plain English, what it means is this, which, I know, is very generally the case, from inquiry of relieving officers. A man comes to a parish, say some London parish, for relief; it does not matter how long he has lived there, or what his antecedents have been; he wants relief, and he gets it. Very few parishes remove the first time; some do; then, at last, the parish officer gives him an order for the workhouse, in order to remove him; but the Irish have universally so great a dread of being sent to Ireland, that on finding an order is to be applied for they go away. Where to? They go to the next parish. One of these gentlemen told me, "I do not care where they go; most likely they will go towards Kensington, or Duke-street, Marylebone; they go to another parish, and I get rid of them." Therefore, the practical effect of this law of removal is, no doubt, to distribute the burthen of pauperism in London; the power of removal prevents a man from persevering in his demand for relief, and drives him into some other parish. Now there is just the same argument in favour of the power

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of removal of an English pauper as of an Irish pauper in that respect. The power of removal, as to an English pauper, has just the same effect; the parish officer, by means of the dread which the power of removal enables him to inspire in the mind of the pauper, prevents him, under given circumstances, from asking for relief; he says, "Well, if you come again I shall remove you." The condition of the persons is not converted into their being able to maintain themselves; vagrancy or mendicity of some sort is the result; they go into another parish, and become a burthen elsewhere; it drives them about, and it does more: it does this which Dr. Alison has pointed out; and I have not the least doubt myself that what was spoken of as occurring at Manchester has been partly caused in this way. "Such is the abhorrence of the destitute Irish," says Dr. Alison, in his Memorial regarding amendments in the Scottish Poor-law, "when sick or disabled, or becoming widows or orphans, to the forcible return to Ireland, which is the only mode of relief granted by law, that, rather than expose themselves to this treatment, they have been very frequently found to conceal the existence both of epidemic fever and of malignant cholera in their families, the effect of which, in favouring the extension of these diseases, and frustrating all measures for checking their diffusion, need not be pointed out." There is no doubt whatever that that is the cause, and that the Irish frequent the worst localities in London, and are very densely collected together. Before the Lodging-house Act passed there were a dozen in a room constantly, in the very poorest and most miserable, and most unhealthy places in London; they have gone into those places, and have remained there in illness or fever, from the terror of removal. Therefore the existence of such a power most materially obstructs the due operation of the Poor-law, the object of which is to relieve all those destitute persons who try to get work, but cannot get it, as well as those who are impotent. I apprehend that the existence of the power of removal does most necessarily and essentially interfere with the great objects, and detracts from the good of any poor-law; and that applies, I consider, as strongly to removals of the Irish as to removals of the English.

6406. Are you aware whether the stricter system which they have in the Irish workhouses, and the absence of out-door relief, operate generally in the minds of the Irish poor, making them dread removal to Ireland?—No, I do not think it is that. I would remind the Committee of the inquiries of Mr. George Nicholls, who was a Poor-law Commissioner, and who made the three reports on which the first Irish Poor-law was founded. Mr. Nicholls was at great pains, before that system was adopted, to ascertain what the effect of a workhouse was upon an Irishman, and his inquiries were all in England. I have found, when I have cross-questioned parochial officers upon it (I say cross-questioned, because one does not always get the full information on the first question), that the Irish dread the workhouse here more than the English do; when I have asked my informant as to giving up the power of removal, "Supposing you administered your workhouse test in every case where you suspected that a man could do something for himself and would not, he being an idle lazy fellow, who did not deserve relief, what do you think would be the effect?" he has said, "If you could bring him into the workhouse, it would be much the same thing as sending him to Ireland: you would get rid of him." Mr. Nicholls, in 1834 and 1835 thought an Irishman just as reluctant to enter an English workhouse as an English pauper; it is not merely the dietary, because that probably is a good deal better than he would get out of it, but there is a precise order and discipline which is kept up, which is extremely irksome to people who have not been accustomed to anything of the kind. I have no doubt myself, that the workhouse test where you have a workhouse would be amply sufficient.

6407. There are a good many places in this country, are there not, where the workhouses are very deficient?—I am quite aware of that; and that it is one of the defects of the present law: that there is not, what there should be, a very summary power of requiring workhouses to be built wherever they are needed.

6408. You are aware that it depends entirely upon the guardians?—Yes; that is one of the defects of the present state of the law, that there should not be the power of having that building, which on every view of the mode of administering the Poor-law is necessary. I should never argue that you are to apply the workhouse test to everybody who is entitled to receive relief. I think that, in many cases, with a wise and judicious administration of the Poor-law, you may do a great deal out of the workhouse, and if you can do it out of the workhouse,

workhouse, it is better than in; but still the workhouse is needed as a test, and it is very easy to provide it, and I apprehend there would be no great difficulty in procuring workhouse accommodation. At all events, a stone-yard is a very easy thing to have; that is found in London extremely efficient as a test; it is found, as I have been told by a relieving officer, of whom I have made inquiries, that this stone-yard "will drive away a good number." They have to perform a quantity of work every day; they come at six in the morning to do their work, and a certain amount of work is done, and that, I believe, is sufficient; still the power of requiring them to come into the workhouse is a thing which also exists.

6409. Do you know the effect of that kind of work which you have mentioned upon the Irish?—I should say also that, generally speaking, I have found upon my inquiries, that in London it is mainly in the depth of winter that there is a pressure of the Irish, which seems to show, and I have no doubt it is so, that they are industrious people, desirous of earning their own bread, and that the fact of their wanting to get relief in England arises only when they are out of work. This is one of the answers which I got from a very intelligent officer, who had been employed 20 years in different parishes in London, relieving the poor: "For a couple of months in the severity of the winter, I think a good many Irish would come in, if no power of removal to Ireland existed, but with the approach of spring they would leave; they like a rambling life;" that is his view of the question as far as the effect of abolishing the power of removal goes.

6410. Sir *J. Young.*] Did you understand that answer to refer to vagrants only, or, to persons occasionally employed?—I understood this not to apply to vagrants; mere vagrants I did not inquire about at all, because those I consider like the English vagrants. A great many Irish are employed in hop-picking in Kent and other places, near London, and after that is over a good many come to town, and some of them having been at work getting all they could, become chargeable in the course of the winter. I may mention that the number of persons employed in hop-picking is very large. One of the last reports, about two years ago, on the cholera in London, Mr. Granger's Report on Epidemic Cholera, tracing the localities very much inhabited by Irish, where it mainly arose, ascertained that one particular hop-grower, whose name is given, employed nearly 1,000 hands down in Kent, and that about 600 of them were Irish; and from my own knowledge for the last 20 years, and that of my friends with whom I have talked on the subject, there is a very large contribution of Irish labour for hay time and harvest time in the agricultural districts, in the Midland Counties, and the North of England. In the West Riding of Yorkshire, notwithstanding its great population, there is a good deal of such Irish labour; and in Nottinghamshire, and down as far as Northamptonshire, a very large portion of the labour employed in getting in the harvest is Irish. And as far as my observation goes (for I have seen something of them), as a body, they are generally just as well conducted as any men in the world employed, could be. Now and then there are rows between them and the English; I have had such a case at the York assizes, on the criminal side, but I speak of them generally.

6411. Was the impression made upon your mind that any great number of those persons, who accepted this kind of temporary employment, would refuse to take constant employment if they could get it at fair wages?—Quite the contrary; I have not the slightest doubt that the Irish who come to England as a body, come here for work, except on an occasion like 1847, with which general legislation need not trouble itself, because if the same occurs again something must be done to meet it. There was a bad harvest in England, and there were no potatoes in Ireland, and the population there was two millions more than it is now; people came over dying of starvation. Instead of dying in Ireland they came here to get relief, and so they will again if the same causes occur. I do not know why they should not come over from France, if there was a great dearth there; people would come over to the English coast, and we should not send them back again. The grounds of my opinion will also be found partly in the history of the self-supporting emigration from Ireland, in the last few years; the emigrating labouring population are industrious enough, themselves to raise the means; friends who go out first send them funds back, and consequently very much by means of this emigration, as well as by the famine, the population of Ireland is reduced from between 8,000,000 and 9,000,000 in 1841, at the present time, to probably about 6,000,000; it cannot be much more than that now, because there has been a great diminution since the last census, in 1851: that therefore is

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the strongest proof of the character of these people. I myself when in Ireland have seen them return to Ireland from this country; I have seen them in Ireland coming back; and a man has had the means to pay the rent of his little patch of ground, namely 3 *l.*, or 4 *l.* or 5 *l.*, which he has earned in England. I dare say he has begged his way back, and has travelled all the way on a mere trifle; but he has saved his money, and in England he has no doubt been living in a very different manner from the English labourer. I do not look on this immigration of Irish labour as an unmixed good; it increases the capital of England, but I myself think there is a good deal of harm in it, as far as our towns are concerned. I should hope to see a diminution of it, which I think we are sure to get. I would remind the Committee of this, as a reason why anybody need not be afraid of immigration from Ireland. The population has diminished very much; that alone, unless capital goes out of the country to the same extent, tends to raise the amount of the wages of labour. One wondered that the wages of labour did not start a little in Ireland even two years ago; but they did not; even last year they did not; 4 *s.* a week was an agricultural labourer's wages up to last year; the 6th report of the Irish Poor-law Board shows that. It was expected that in the year now ended there would be an increase in the wages, and that result is found to be so; and the last report of the Irish Poor-law Board, by statistical tables given at the end of it, shows that during the year the expected increase has come, and the Irish labourer gets on an average 1 *s.* a week more than he did previously; and it must follow, if this emigration goes on two or three years more, that the condition of the labouring people of Ireland will improve very much, and there can be no reason why it should not be expected to go on, because it has gone to that length now that I think it must go a good deal further; it cannot stop suddenly.

6412. Mr. *Dunlop.*] With that diminution of population, supposing the employment to continue the same, do you think that there will be such an increase in the amount of wages as to bring the rate to a level with that in England?—Yes, but how much it is very difficult to say; they did increase 1 *s.* last year. The Wiltshire and Sussex labourer has always had his 6 *s.*, or 7 *s.* or 8 *s.*, for a long time; and I should myself expect it to be the case, that for two or three years to come the Irish labourers will get perhaps from 6 *d.* to 1 *s.* more weekly in each year. I see no reason why agricultural labourers in Ireland should not in a short time be in quite as good a condition as the agricultural labourers in Wiltshire, excepting that the Irishman is content with a much lower scale of accommodation than the English labourer: that will always have an effect upon the amount of wages. You will want another generation before you get the Irish labourer into quite a satisfactory condition. By satisfactory condition I mean one somewhat better than that of the English agricultural labourer during the greater part of the last half century.

6413. Sir *J. Pakington.*] In the meantime, that annual influx of Irish labourers for the sake of employment in this country has very much diminished, has it not?—Very much indeed; there is no doubt that that which was thought by the Committees of 1817 and 1819 to be a serious thing, is now really a thing which nobody would feel the least fear about. If we had not this to deal with as an existing matter of history and law for the last 35 years, nobody would have the slightest fear of any influx from Ireland, or would think any law for the removal of Irish paupers necessary.

6414. Are you at all aware of an influx into England for another purpose, namely, Irish coming or being sent over to England for the sake of the different system of relief which obtains in this country as compared with Ireland?—I have heard a good deal of that, but I have no definite knowledge upon which I could rely. I have heard that there are clubs in Ireland, and I have heard that there are clubs even of young women for the sake of providing funds to enable each of them, on drawing lots for the privilege, to come over to England to go into service; not for relief, but to get employment.

6415. My question applied to relief?—I have not heard of that; I do not believe it.

6416. You have not heard of Irish paupers either coming voluntarily or being sent for the sake of the benefit of the difference of system which obtains in England as compared with Ireland?—No; and I should not believe that or any similar statement unless I had an opportunity of cross-examining the person who made it, whoever he was. I should not believe it from a single case; I do not think that there can be shown a dozen instances where parties have come

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over from Ireland merely to get relief at the discretion of the English authorities, either in the workhouse or out of it; I should require something very strong to induce me to believe in such a course of proceeding on the part of Irishmen. The year 1847, when no relief could be got in Ireland, is an exceptional case.

6417. Are you aware of the great difference which exists between the system of pauper-relief in England and the system of pauper-relief in Ireland?—There must be a good deal of difference. I have been in Ireland, and have seen something of it there, and also in England, but still the workhouse is to an Irishman as much a prison in England as in Ireland; he is not very particular about cleanliness or the dietary which he gets.

6418. Are you aware that in Ireland at present the relief to a pauper is almost, if not entirely, confined to relief in the workhouse?—Certainly.

6419. Are you aware that, in consequence of that system, and in consequence also of what you state, as to its being a system which is very unacceptable to the Irish people, the proportion of persons receiving relief in Ireland, compared with the whole population, is very considerably smaller than that receiving relief in England?—I am quite aware of that fact; I am quite aware that the real burthen of pauperism in Ireland, looked at as a charge on the land in Ireland, is very trifling compared with that which is found in many English counties.

6420. Then that being the case, the system of relief in Ireland being much more disagreeable to the people, a very much smaller proportion receiving relief, and the system of relief in England being more easy and more liberal, do not you apprehend that, as a probable consequence of the entire doing away with the removal of Irish paupers back to Ireland, there might be an influx of poor from Ireland to this country, for the sake of the difference between the two systems?—I think not; I think, looking at the Irish character, and at all the circumstances, there would be no danger at all of Irishmen coming over to get relief in England, on better and more acceptable conditions (which is what it comes to) than in Ireland; because in England every parish has the power of giving relief in the workhouse; there is no very great difficulty in requiring any Irishman in England at any moment, to receive relief only in the workhouse; there is not necessarily a discrepancy in the system of administration; the English Poor-law officer can put any person into the workhouse at any time. It was the notion of some of the earlier administrators of the Poor-law that the great object of the Poor-law was to make the workhouse the only means of affording relief. I do not myself agree to that at all; it is not done so now; it is admitted that they may relieve out of the workhouse, but still the parish may always relieve in it; may always refuse to relieve elsewhere.

6421. You mean that in the event of any such system being attempted, it would be as easy for the parish authorities, say of Liverpool, to apply the workhouse test, as it is to apply that test in Ireland?—It would be perfectly easy for the Poor-law Board, by one single stroke of the pen, to say, that no Irishman by birth is to be relieved in England except in the workhouse, if it were thought necessary to have such a general rule laid down for the whole country, but I by no means go that length; however, without doing that, which I think is not necessary, every parish might so act whenever there should be the least necessity for doing so.

6422. You have expressed a strong opinion, that in the event of English removals being done away with, all removals from England to Ireland should also be done away with?—Yes.

6423. In that event, do you not apprehend any hardship to those localities, such as Liverpool or Glasgow, where the Irish flock in great numbers, from various causes, from the influx of Irish people who would become irremovable?—I do; much in the same way as I apprehend hardship to many English parishes from abolishing the English power of removal. I have no doubt that the abolishing of the power of removal, whether of Irish or of English, will tend to throw burthens a little more heavily than they are now on particular localities, namely, large towns; it is the towns which in this respect are interested in the matter, rather than any other part of the country. The towns would be subjected to heavier burthens from the abolition of the English power of removal, much more than from the abolition of the Irish power of removal; and I suggest the mode of making each place pay only one-third and the whole country two-thirds, as meeting any possible emergency of that kind. Some of the London parishes made a

great noise when the late Bill was in Parliament, proposing to abolish all removals; it was said that everybody would come to favoured parishes at the west end of London, and that nobody would go to Whitechapel or Bethnal Green; and to some extent that would be the case.

6424. You would trust to your plan of rating to obviate that?—Entirely.

6425. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Do you consider the payment of one-third of the expense a sufficient guarantee for an economical administration by the parishes?—I made a minute inquiry into that subject four or five years ago, from a considerable number of very intelligent officers engaged in the administration of the Poor-law. I will state one of the ideas which occurred to me, in connexion with abolishing the power of removal altogether. It is an absurd thing to remove a man to a place which is to maintain him without compelling him to stay there, if you want to fix the burthen permanently there; and therefore I considered that you might very conveniently say, that in a case of settlement you shall not remove a man, but you may make a money order on the place of settlement, just as is done now in the case of lunatics, requiring the place of settlement to pay. But if you did that absolutely, every parish would get money orders indiscriminately on insufficient grounds; and therefore I considered what would be a sufficient check, and the result was, that they would care about it sufficiently if they had one-third to pay. I at first thought whether you could do without their paying as much as half, but the result at which I arrived was, that one-third would do, and that they would not waste one-third of the whole sum expended if that third was their own money.

6426. You are satisfied that that would be a sufficient stimulus?—I think so, keeping the parochial element; if you made the parishes into unions the question would be different; but I think, with the interest which is taken in all matters concerning parish affairs, one-third would be sufficient as the contribution of the parish.

6427. You have spoken about giving a money order; do you assume that there is no other way of doing it but by allowing a justice to give an order for payment; are you aware how it is done in Scotland?—I am not aware what the mode of proceeding is in Scotland to get the payment.

6428. They make a claim, and if it is resisted, it must be settled by the Court?—That is much the same in principle; the money order being made, there is, in the English cases, the power of appeal against that order.

6429. What is your ground for thinking that an objectionable mode of proceeding?—I think it a great improvement on the present law, and that it would be in very many respects better than the present system, but still it leaves untouched the whole of this department of the law, which rests on the most arbitrary grounds. It determines the right of a poor man according to whether his great-grandfather happened to sleep for 40 nights in a particular parish. I see no ground for having a settlement at all. It is every day's occurrence that the place of settlement is a place with which the man has no connexion. The birth of a man is displaced by that of his father, and if you get to where the grandfather was born or acquired a settlement, you must go there. I was rather assuming in the present inquiry that the English law of settlement is condemned.

6430. Would not the scheme of doing away with removal, but not changing the burthen, remove all those personal hardships which now exist, and all interference with the free transport of labour?—Yes; and on that account I have mentioned it very fully in the 16th chapter of my book; thinking that if Parliament could not agree in repealing the law of settlement, they would, at all events, get rid of a great deal of oppression by going as far as that. Still I should very strongly protest against making an inquiry in Devonshire about such antecedent events in some parish in Northumberland, and throwing the burthen upon such Northumberland parish.

6431. With regard to the present law of vagrancy, am I to understand you that an Irishman is still liable to be sent over for an act of vagrancy?—If chargeable, he is not the less liable to be sent because he is a vagrant; he can be punished as a vagrant in England, or sent to Ireland if he be chargeable here.

6432. Was it not Mr. Nicholls' opinion that an Irishman would never go into a workhouse at all?—I doubt whether he went so far as that; but he made a great many inquiries in Bristol and other places, and his opinion was, that the workhouse test would be sufficient. The foundation on which his opinion rested, that an Irishman would submit to anything but the workhouse test, was the experience

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of English workhouses respecting Irishmen. Bristol, and Birmingham, and several places were inquired into.

6433. His opinion has not been entirely confirmed by Irish experience?—A great many people will not die rather than go into the workhouse; but, as far as my information goes, it is, in that sense of the word, a very satisfactory test of destitution.

6434. Mr. *Maguire*.] I believe that, in point of fact, until the year 1847 the Irish did not go into the workhouses in very large numbers?—There was a very great hanging back, I believe, for some time.

6435. I believe there was a comparatively small number of workhouses up to 1846 or 1847; there were very few occupied?—They were so full in 1847 that there was an immense mortality, which has diminished steadily since 1848.

6436. Some of the witnesses who have been examined here have laboured under the idea that, if the law of removal were done away with, a very large number of poor would come to this country for the mere purpose of enjoying the different dietary in the English workhouses as compared with the Irish. You have given an opinion upon that point; but I wish distinctly to elicit from you whether you have any apprehension that any number of Irish would leave their country for the express purpose of obtaining the advantage of the different diet in this country?—They would not, except in such an event as the famine of 1847. If you had actual starvation in Ireland, if people died by the roadside, or in the workhouse, where they were overcrowded or underfed, and if they could come to England with the chance of not dying, I think they would come to England to get relief there; but unless there was something of that sort, I have no idea that they would do it. I am not much surprised to hear that people have expressed that opinion, because I have myself heard it said again and again, when the last Bill was in Parliament, in reference to the English poor, "The moment this Bill passes, we shall have all the paupers coming to us for the better dietary of our house; we treat them so much better here than in those miserable places in the other parts of London, that they will come here directly."

6437. You are of opinion that the rate of wages will steadily improve in Ireland; does the operation of the Encumbered Estates Act enter into your calculation?—Most undoubtedly anything which tends to the better distribution of property, must tend to the diminution of pauperism. You have in Ireland such a total want of property among such an immense number of people, that you have an exaggeration of the evils which exist in very many other countries.

6438. Are you of opinion that the change of property to the amount of 13,000,000 *l.* from the hands of encumbered proprietors to those of unencumbered persons, must have a great effect upon employment?—Certainly; I not only think so, but I think that it is an opinion in which every person who has considered seriously the main principles on which the welfare of society depends, so far as production and wages of labour are concerned, must fully concur: there can be no doubt about it.

6439. Considering how long the farmers of Ireland have adhered to their practice of giving their labourers such very miserable wages as 6 *d.* a day, are you of opinion that the increase of those wages to 6 *s.* a week, as stated in the last report of the Poor-law Commissioners, indicates such a change as would give rise to very great hope for the future?—I think so; and that arises in part from what you have just mentioned, and in part from a diminution in the number of the labouring population. There is a smaller number of hands to employ; and the consequence is, that there is a greater difficulty in getting a labourer, and he must be better paid. It is well known that in countries on the Continent, where you have a large class of small proprietors, the labourers get very high wages. In such countries they are a small class; they are not the great bulk of society as they are in Ireland.

6440. Dr. Alison has stated, that the threat of removal operates injuriously, inasmuch as people who are sick are afraid to apply for relief, and that fever generates in those poor localities. That applies to Scotland; but might not the same apply to any large town in England?—Yes; and I mention that in reference to what was stated by one of the witnesses examined this morning, that they have had fever in Manchester ever since 1847, when the power of removal was extensively applied, and a great many people, rather than be removed, remained in wretchedness, and disease was generated which would not otherwise have been the case.

6441. Mr. *Dunlop*.] Do you think that the power of removal could be done away

away with, without the equalization of two-thirds of the expense of relief as you have mentioned?—I think it might be done away with, but still I consider that equalization extremely important, for this reason, as a permanent thing. It may be expected that we shall have in England great changes in the next 50 years. Looking at the past, we have been increasing very much in wealth, and in population, and the change of the burthen of pauperism may be very great. The moment you abolish the law of settlement, and give perfect freedom to the circulation of labour, the population will be more changeable than it is now. For instance, if the law of settlement is entirely repealed, an agricultural labourer will move about more easily than he does now, and will go where there is a sphere for his industry. You will have an increased immigration into the towns; the density of the town population will be increased very greatly; and unless you have done something in the meantime to ease off the burthen, you will have great crises; there will be a great pressure on manufacturing districts, raising questions of political importance, raising means for political agitation. Now such a plan as I propose provides for all that.

6442. If the law of removal is done away, you think that these crises in particular localities will not be so great that it will be impossible to meet them without some equalization, either partial or national?—All I say is, that when the Law of Removal is repealed, I think a pressure may occur which should be provided against. In 1848, I think the poor-rates in Sheffield rose from 2 *s.* in one year to 8 *s.* in the next; in Stockport, and Nottingham, and other towns, the same thing occurred about the same period. There was an enormous increase of poor-rate, causing a great pressure, not only on those just above the poor; an immense number of houses ceased to be occupied. There is an immense disturbance in the prosperity of the country, from crises of that sort, as we all know. Take the town of Bradford, which has been increasing at a rate almost incredible for the last eight or ten years; suppose that a great stagnation of trade occurred, and that there was a sudden and extreme pressure upon the poor-rates in Bradford, I say it would be a very satisfactory thing for the whole country if, on such an occasion, one-third only fell on the locality in which the particular pressure was. In Stockport, in 1842, there was an immense pressure from the burden on the parish which the poor-rates indicated. All that is done away with by a provision of this kind.

6443. What do you consider the practical evil arising from not relieving the able-bodied in Scotland?—I can only draw this inference, that Scotland does not possess a proper intelligence (I say it with the most profound respect for Scotland) of the real nature and object of a poor-law. Scotland is in exactly the position in which the people of England were in the early part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The Scottish people do not understand that it is the duty and the benefit of the State to provide that the poor shall not actually die of starvation; I can draw no other inference.

6444. What are the practical evils which now exist, according to your knowledge, from the law in Scotland, of not allowing the able-bodied the right to relief?—The practical evils are obvious: you will have much more mendicancy, and more vagrancy; you will have all those evils resulting from not having a Poor-law at all; those evils which the Poor-law ought to correct will exist in undiminished force in Scotland.

6445. Is there, in point of fact, more vagrancy in Scotland at present than in England or Ireland?—That is a matter of statistical information.

6446. Are there, in point of fact, deaths of the able-bodied in Scotland from starvation—I should apprehend there must be a great deal of disease and suffering, and a most undue pressure on the resources of the charitable; as was the case in England in the early part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth; but I am speaking now of that on which, as to Scotland, I have no practical knowledge. I am quite clear that in England the matter is understood, as it is provided for in the statute of Elizabeth, and as it has existed for the last 250 years; namely, that we are satisfied that it is safe and advantageous to give relief to the able-bodied.

6447. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Does the English labourer look forward to a settlement?—I do not think now he does; a great many years ago I have no doubt he did; a great many years ago he felt that having a settlement gave him a right to relief, and there was a sort of notion that he had not a right to it without a settlement; it was quite wrong in point of law, because the right was from being destitute.

6448. Do you think that that feeling deterred many from quitting the parish where they were born?—I think the cause of that was very much the liability to removal back; that, I believe, is very much the reason why English labour has not circulated so freely as it should have done; that was the cause why you were paying 7 *s.* a week in one county, and, 50 miles off, 12 *s.*

6449. Then that power of removal back operates as a check to pauperism, does it not?—I do not see that.

6450. You say that there is a fear of being sent back?—Therefore they stay paupers at home rather than go and try to get work elsewhere, and subject themselves to removal back. I think it was proved a hundred times over in 1847, before the Committee, that the liability to removal interfered with the circulation of labour in such a way. I cannot myself account in any other way for the difference of wages in different English counties, 7 *s.* in Wiltshire and 12 *s.* in the manufacturing counties, and Nottinghamshire, and Lincolnshire.

6451. Are not those wages accounted for by the proximity to manufacturing towns?—But the tendency would be that the Wiltshire labourer would be induced to go into Lincolnshire, and compete with the Lincolnshire labourer. It would take a generation before they re-distributed themselves; but if you abolished the law of settlement, I think you would have a re-distribution necessarily following.

6452. *Chairman.*] Have you returns to which you wish to draw attention?—There are two returns made in the years 1848 and 1849, on the motion of Lord Dudley Stuart, respecting the Irish poor, upon each of which I would make a remark. First, that for 1848 contains 159,829 Irish poor relieved, and the cost of relief given to them is 76,931 *l.*

6453. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Over what area does that extend?—It is, in fact, the Irish poor relieved in the city of London, the borough of Marylebone, the city of Westminster, the borough of Lambeth, the borough of Southwark, the borough of the Tower Hamlets, the borough of Finsbury, the borough of Liverpool, the city of Glasgow, and the city of Bristol; those places comprise probably at least two-thirds of all the Irish in Great Britain; 159,829 persons were relieved, and the money expended in relief to them was 76,931 *l.*; therefore on the average the Irish poor receiving relief only received 9 *s.* 7½ *d.* each. I draw attention to that, as tending to show, perhaps better than any individual opinion of a parish officer would do, the short continuance of chargeability; it shows strikingly, to my mind, that, generally speaking, the Irish so relieved are people earning their living, but becoming chargeable for a short time. The other Return is of the following year, but not for quite the same district; it includes a number of large towns in England; Leeds is included; Manchester is included; some places in Wales are included; parts of Scotland, namely, Glasgow, Paisley, and Edinburgh, are included. I find that in Scotland, 23,841 Irish persons are relieved, and the whole sum expended on them is 13,069 *l.* In Manchester there are 43,000, and the sum expended is 20,000*l.*, less than 10*s.* each. St. Pancras relieves 6,000, and spends only 1,300*l.* on them. St. Martin's-in-the-Fields relieves 4,800, and spends 249*l.* In Paddington, the Committee will find that the number relieved is 1,231, namely, in-door 1,188, at a cost of 25*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*; and out-door, 43, at a cost of 42*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.* There must have been an extremely short stay in the workhouse, and it must have been very effectual. In the city of London there were 1,292 relieved in the house, at a cost of 258*l.*; 859 were removed to Ireland at a cost of 1,690 *l.* I would mention one other fact, which lies in a single word, which is this: with respect to the number of Irish in England, there is no difficulty in knowing what it is; the last census will give it: it may be got from the Census Office; I believe it is less than 500,000. The number of removals of the Irish is about 10,000, that is, two per cent.; the whole Irish population of England, therefore, are subjected to a removal of two per cent. Apply that to England, and suppose the English population to be subjected to the same operation, and you would remove 300,000 Englishmen yearly; therefore, as to the Irish population in England (however small a question it is as far as England is concerned), it is a very important question to them, because 10,000 out of 500,000 are subjected to an order of removal; it would make the orders of removal in England something more than 300,000, if they bore the same proportion to the English population as the removals of the Irish bear to the Irish population resident in England.

Jovis, 13° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Mr. G. A. Hamilton.
Mr. Liddell.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. John Ball.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Maguire.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Evan David, Esq., called in; and Examined.

E. David, Esq.
13 July 1854.

6454. *Chairman.*] I BELIEVE you are Chairman of the Board of Guardians of the Cardiff Union, in Glamorganshire?—I am.

6455. Did you for some years fill the office of vice-chairman of the same union?—Yes, for five or six years previously.

6456. And you have been a guardian of the union, I believe, since its commencement?—I have.

6457. When did it commence?—I believe it was in 1835 or 1836.

6458. You are also a magistrate for the county of Glamorgan?—I am.

6459. Have you paid great attention to the subject of the Irish removals?—I have paid some attention to it.

6460. You are aware of the object of the inquiries of this Committee, the operation of the existing law in that respect, and as to how far it may be expedient to alter that law?—Yes.

6461. In the first place, with regard to the existing state of things, have you many Irish paupers in the Cardiff Union?—We have a great many; we believe that we are very much burthened with Irish paupers; much more so than with our own class.

6462. Have you any statements of particular numbers of paupers which you can lay before the Committee?—I have.

6463. What is that paper which you now hold in your hand?—This is an account of the number of paupers that we have relieved during the last four years; that is, taking a half-yearly average. We make up our accounts half yearly.

6464. By "paupers," do you mean paupers of all classes, English and Irish?—I have both; they are separated. The Irish paupers average 1,009.

6465. In each of those half-yearly accounts the Irish average 1,009?—They do; all other classes, 1,320; that is for the town of Cardiff. The cost of the relief paid to Irish paupers is 2,530 *l.* 17 *s.* 5 *d.*

6466. In each year?—No.

6467. In the four years?—Yes, the total amount.

6468. What is the amount for the relief of the others?—I find that I have no account of it. Of midwifery cases during the four years we had 365 Irish; of all others only 67; of burials, during the same period, 421 Irish, and 253 of all others.

6469. Have the Irish paupers been varying much lately?—In the last two or three years we find that they are increasing; of course they are not equal to what they were in 1847 and 1848, during the potatoe failure in Ireland; but latterly they are rather increasing.

6470. Should you say that they were increasing now?—Yes; the last half-year was greater than any for the last three or four years.

6471. Where do they come from chiefly, as far as you can make out?—Chiefly from Cork; they are brought over in the coal vessels. We have a large export of coal from Cardiff to Cork, and the vessels generally return in ballast, and they are enabled to bring deck passengers, of course at a very low rate; and we have them in very large numbers; we have had as many as 100, 150, and 200 landed at once, all in the most wretched condition.

6472. What

6472. What do you mean by "in the most wretched condition;" in what respect so?—Almost famished, especially if they have been for some time on their passage. If a vessel has been wind-bound, which is often the case, we find them in a very destitute state when they land.

6473. Are they landed at Cardiff?—They were formerly landed at Cardiff, but our union ascertained that the captains of those vessels had no licences for carrying passengers, and they offered a reward for informations against them. After considerable difficulty, they fined one only; we then found that they left the paupers on our coast near Cardiff, and went on themselves to Newport, consequently we were unable to get at the captains. We find the paupers very reluctant to state by what vessel they come, or the name of the captain; they are very loth to give us any information; they also stated that their passage was paid, but that they did not know by whom.

6474. Has it happened frequently that you have received that answer?—Frequently. If the Committee would allow me, I should be glad to refer to a report made by the medical officer of the town, under the Board of Health.

6475. Will you give us the date of that report?—It is dated this year; it is a report in January last.

6476. By whom?—Mr. Paine.

6477. Is he the medical officer of the Cardiff Union?—He is the medical officer for Cardiff under the Board of Health.

6478. Is that report an official report of his to the Board of Health?—It is an official report.

6479. Do you propose to read an extract from it?—If the Committee will allow me.

6480. Be so good as to do so?—He says, "The population of Cardiff, according to the last census, amounted to 18,351, showing an increase of 8 per cent. per annum on the previous 10 years. Assuming the same rate of increase to have continued, the population may now be estimated at 21,000." (I believe he is below the mark; however, that is not important:) "But it is important to bear in mind, that an unusually large proportion of this number is composed of mechanics, labourers, and another very numerous class, exercising considerable influence on the sanitary condition of this town, I mean the mendicant Irish, a class which may be computed to exceed 3,000 in number." Those are the mendicant Irish, vagrants and trampers. I will read another passage from the same report if the Committee will allow me: "The first subject to which I have to call your attention is the extraordinary high rate of infant mortality, under one year of age, this being 223; and, compared with the gross mortality, is as one in three, while in London it is one in five, and, in rural districts, one in eight. It is to the lodging-house system I refer this high rate of infant mortality, a system I shall have occasion to allude to again. The bulk of this mortality occurs in the localities inhabited by the Irish poor, and is attributable to their mode of living; the sexes live and occupy the same rooms indiscriminately, hence early marriage and illegitimate births. Accustomed from a tender age to all kinds of privations, with no regard to comfort and decency, such people are little restrained by a sense of providence. A marriage of improvidence is with them the rule, a marriage of providence the exception. Their own constitutions, sapped by constant exposure to the vitiated atmosphere of their own crowded hovels, the weakly offspring exposed to every influence such an atmosphere can engender, with little parental care, has feeble tenacity of life."

6481. Have you another document to which you are about to refer?—I have Mr. Rammell's report, the superintending inspector from the Board of Health, who visited Cardiff some few years ago, for the purpose of giving his opinion on the drainage of the town.

6482. Is there any passage in that to which you wish to call the attention of the Committee?—Yes. Mr. Rammell states, "The principal cause of the excessive overcrowding found to prevail in Cardiff, is the vast influx of destitute Irish from Cork and Waterford, who have been partly attracted in the hope of obtaining employment on the public works, and partly by the extraordinary facilities of conveyance offered by the captains of vessels trading to this port. Mr. Paine states," that is, the officer of the Board of Health, "and the same observation has been made by others, that these poor wretches are 'brought over as ballast, without any payment for their passage. The captains, it appears, find it cheaper to ship and unship this living ballast than

one of lime or shingles.' They are generally landed, however, on the coast before the vessels arrive at the port; and from thence they make their way into the town, and throng the lodging-houses, bringing pestilence on their backs, famine in their stomachs; for Mr. S. Paine states, that many of them have exhibited symptoms of incipient fever on their arrival, and that it has been from this source that fever has subsequently spread through the town. He adds, 'Frequently the lodging-house keepers become alarmed when the epidemic shows itself. As soon as an inmate exhibits symptoms of disease he is thrust into the street, and we are obliged to move him into the workhouse. This has recently given rise to typhus in a severe form among the inmates of the house.' " Mr. Paine further states, "At the time the epidemic broke out in 1847, in addition to the cases given before as attended by myself, 186 were admitted into a temporary hospital in the suburbs of the town; 61 of them were fatal. This large proportion of mortality is to be accounted for by the circumstance of nearly all the cases being those of Irish suffering from fever at the time of their landing, and in a half-famished state, immediately going to the hospital. The cases, in fact, may be said to have been imported direct from Skibbereen and Clonakilty." There is one other passage which I will read, if the Committee will allow me. "There were relieved in the workhouse in 1848 one widow and 26 orphans, whose parents, or last surviving parent, had died within a period of about three or four years, several of them, the children of Irish parents, who died of what was called the Irish famine fever, and who had not resided in the town, having been landed on the coast in this neighbourhood in a state of starvation and disease." "The 49 cases of confinements are almost exclusively Irish, as it is the invariable rule with the lower class of Irish husbands to absent themselves during the confinement of their wives." This is a report made some years ago, and therefore not got up for this occasion.

6483. What is the date of that report?—1850.

6484. You say that many of the Irish are landed in a destitute state?—In a very destitute state.

6485. Does that observation apply to those who come now down to this time?—They are not now so destitute as they were in 1847 and 1848; but still they are generally in a miserable state; we had last winter a family brought over to the relieving officer's house in a cart, the children in a dying state.

6486. Where were they brought from?—From Ireland. I cannot state from what part of Ireland.

6487. Had they been landed at Cardiff?—Yes.

6488. And do you say that they were taken to the relieving officer's house in a cart?—Yes, they were.

6489. How soon after their landing?—Immediately after.

6490. Have you known them frequently come or brought to the relieving officer soon after their landing?—Yes, invariably.

6491. Do you mean by "invariably" that that is generally the case?—Yes; a large portion of them invariably go; they are generally so destitute. Latterly we have had a larger portion of women and children who come over, and they generally apply for relief immediately

6492. Is it immediately on their landing that they apply to the relieving officer?—Immediately on their landing; they have frequently gone up straight to the relieving officer's house.

6493. And you say that that state of things continues now, though it is not so bad as in the year 1847?—It is not so bad as it was in 1847 and 1848, but still it continues.

6494. I think you say the last half-year of all there was a greater number than you had had for two or three years before?—There was; viz.: in the half-year ending March 1852 there were 737 Irish paupers, at a cost of 526*l.* 15*s.* 11*d.*; in the half-year ending March 1853 we had 967 paupers, cost 693*l.* 12*s.* 11¾*d.*; and in the half-year ending March last, 1,008 paupers cost 814*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*

6495. Will you be so good as to describe what is your mode of dealing with those cases when they come before the Board of Guardians?—We generally give them relief at the time. But when there is any probability of their continuing paupers we are obliged to tell them that we shall send them back to Ireland. We do not, perhaps, in the first instance do so, but if the application is repeated or if the parties are completely destitute, they are then sent back, or at all events threatened to be sent back.

6496. What

6496. What is your course with respect to each case; is it brought before the magistrates?—Yes, it is.

6497. Two magistrates?—Two magistrates.

6498. Where do they hear it?—In the Town Hall in Cardiff.

6499. In open court?—In open court; we found formerly, when we sent them back by those coal traders, that it was too often the case that the captains put them on shore immediately after going out; they were both to be sent to Ireland, and were equally anxious to be allowed to return. After their passage had been paid by the union we found that the captains put them on shore, perhaps a few miles below the town on the coast, and we soon had them again as paupers to be relieved.

6500. Has that frequently happened?—It often happened, and in consequence, for the last two or three years we have invariably sent them to Bristol, to be sent direct by steamer from Bristol to Ireland.

6501. How do you send them to Bristol?—By steamer from Cardiff, with a man in care of them.

6502. I understand that you have no steam communication direct from Cardiff to Cork?—No, we have not.

6503. But you have from Cardiff to Bristol?—Yes.

6504. And then there is steam commuication from Bristol to Cork?—Yes.

6505. And that is the course which you now adopt, for the reason which you have just stated?—Yes; we have done so for the last three or four years, or longer, in consequence of what I have just stated; their passage is paid, and the person whom we send in charge of them provides for them lodgings in Bristol till the vessel sails, and also food for the voyage over to Ireland, which seldom exceeds two days, because with a steamer the passage is certain, but by a sailing vessel it is very uncertain.

6506. Do you consider that you send them back in a better or worse state than they have arrived in?—We consider that we send them back in a better state than they were landed in.

6507. Have you had the means of judging from what has passed with these paupers, how far they prefer, or otherwise, their system of treatment in England to that under the Poor-law in Ireland?—We believe that they prefer our system of treatment.

6508. Do you suppose, from the communications which you have had with themselves, that that is their feeling?—Yes, we do, in some measure, from themselves.

6509. What reasons have you heard assigned for that preference?—We find that our mode of treatment in the workhouse is so far superior to what they receive in Ireland, that it is a very strong inducement for them to come over.

6510. In what respect?—I find that the diet in the workhouse in Ireland is very different from the diet which we give them. I have the dietary table of our workhouse which we give our paupers, and having visited some of the workhouses in Ireland last autumn, I ascertained what the dietary there was.

6511. I presume you do not make any difference in the treatment of the English and the Irish paupers in your workhouse?—No, we treat them all alike.

6512. Are you now going to state to us the dietary which the Irish pauper would have in your workhouse?—I am going to state what all paupers in our workhouse receive; we make no distinction between Irish and others when they are admitted as in-door paupers.

6513. Is that the dietary table?—This is the printed dietary table of our house. For breakfast we allow them six ounces of bread and a pint and a half of gruel; for dinner, three days a week, five ounces of meat and three-quarters of a pound of potatoes or half a pound of rice; for two days, 14 ounces of suet pudding or rice pudding; on the other two days, a pint and a half of soup. For supper, six ounces of bread and two ounces of cheese, or a pint and a half of broth and six ounces of bread. Old people of 60 years and upwards, and children, have one ounce of tea, seven ounces of sugar, and five ounces of butter weekly. From the information which I obtained in the workhouses in Ireland, I found that, with the exception of the invalids and the children, they only received two meals a day: one meal for breakfast was stirabout chiefly, made from Indian corn, as I understood.

6514. Mr. *Maguire.*] What workhouse is that?—Limerick, and the same in Cork.

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6515. *Chairman.*] Which did you visit yourself?—Both Cork and Limerick.

6516. And that is the information which you received?—Yes.

6517. Mr. *Maguire.*] You received information that in Cork the breakfast was stirabout; are you certain of that?—I am quite certain that in Limerick I did, and I understood that a portion of the breakfast at Cork was Indian meal; not altogether.

6518. Will you proceed?—For dinner, at three o'clock, a pint of vegetable soup or broth, and one pound of bread daily; no animal food whatever, I was informed, was allowed in the house.

6519. Is that the diet for every day?—Yes.

6520. Mr. *Dunlop.*] By vegetable soup, do you mean soup without any animal matter?—I understood that there was none.

6521. In your soup at Cardiff have you meat boiled?—Yes, we have.

6522. *Chairman.*] I suppose you have also out-door relief at Cardiff?—We have.

6523. We understand that that is brought within very narrow limits indeed in Ireland?—I believe so.

6524. That it is practically done away with?—I had not the same opportunity of ascertaining what the out-door relief in Ireland was, I only know what ours is. Those are strong inducements for the poor to emigrate to England, besides the high rate of wages which we pay, as compared with what is paid in Ireland; the only check which we now have on immigration is the necessity of a five years' residence; and I dread if that is removed, I know of nothing to prevent their coming over in greater numbers than at present; the temptation seems to me to be very strong indeed; our wages for labourers are now, as I understand, about 50 per cent. higher than in Ireland.

6525. Do you consider that you could, consistently with public opinion, make your workhouse system such as to be an effectual test of itself, without this power of removal, in the case of the Irish?—I fear not, as long as we have to contend with the mode of treatment now in the Irish workhouses; I do not think that our guardians would tolerate that system in our workhouses; whether the Poor Law Board would do so or not, I also cannot say.

6526. It has been suggested here, that a difference might be made in the treatment of Irish and English paupers; do you think that that could be done practically?—We have not adopted anything of the kind; we have for vagrants and wanderers a house of refuge, where they are taken in for the night, or occasionally, and where they have temporary relief for short periods; but when they are admitted into the house they are all treated alike.

6527. In your judgment, would it be likely to give rise to complaint, and loud complaint, if one set of paupers, namely, the Irish, were treated in a different way from another set, namely, the English?—I should think so.

6528. You have spoken of the five years' residence; have you turned your attention to the question, whether that could be advantageously or safely abridged; would three years do? I am sure you will agree that the law ought not to be one whit more harsh than is absolutely necessary for the purpose of the law?—Certainly not.

6529. Would three years answer the same purpose as five years; should you say that a three years' residence might give a person irremovability which a five years' residence now does by law?—Three years would not of course be so stringent as five.

6530. Should you say that it would substantially answer the purpose?—I am quite willing to admit that there is a public advantage in equalising the cost of labour, and if that could be obained without inflicting a great grievance upon some localities, I do not mean to deny that it would be a very desirable thing to be obtained. But we complain of a local grievance; we are locally aggrieved, because of the great importations which take place of Irish into Cardiff; perhaps there are only three towns in Wales which suffer severely; those are Swansea, Cardiff and Newport.

6531. Perhaps you have not considered that question, whether a shorter period than five years would answer the same purpose?—It would not answer so effectually; no doubt it would be modifying the present law; it is a medium state between no residence at all and five years. It would, no doubt, increase the grievance we now complain of.

6532. There is another point which has been suggested here, namely, that whereas

whereas the law at present requires the residence to be five years in the same parish, you might have it five years, or a certain period within the same union?—Exactly; I see no objection to that; I think that would be fair.

6533. I dare say you have seen instances where a person has gone, inadvertently perhaps, from one parish to another, and lost irremovability where there really was no substantial ground for it?—Yes; I consider that it is defeating the real object aimed at.

6534. You think that that alteration is a fair thing?—Decidedly.

6535. With reference to the case of a woman, named Honora Swiney, referred to by a gentleman of the name of O'Shaughnessy, the clerk of the Cork Union, and which will be found at Question 1088; have you had the particulars of that case brought before you?—I have.

6536. Do you wish to make any observation upon that case?—Yes; because I think I have it in my power to contradict the statement made.

6537. We shall be very glad to hear any statement which you have to make with regard to that case of Honora Swiney?—Honora Swiney was admitted an in-door pauper on 21st October 1853, into the Cardiff workhouse, on account of destitution. The matron, Mrs. Donett, who is still matron of the house of refuge, recollects her well. She did not complain of ill-health whilst in the establishment; it is stated in the evidence, I believe, that she said she was in ague; that she was very ill. The medical officer on reference to his medical relief-book, finds that he visited the house on the 21st, 22d, 25th, and 29th days of October last, when Swiney was an inmate, but her name does not appear as a patient; therefore she could not have complained of illness, which contradicts, I think, what was stated before the Committee. The union was about removing some Irish paupers to Ireland, and she was included, because she was quite destitute and likely to continue chargeable to the union. Her father, mother, and all the family, had been relieved in Cardiff some years ago; they left the neighbourhood, and in about two years the wife and children returned, stating that the father had left them, and they thought he was dead. The woman and children were then removed to Ireland, and became inmates of the Cork Workhouse, where the mother died. About a year and a half ago the father and children returned again, and they were relieved as out-paupers (this contradicts the particulars which are stated almost from beginning to end; I think she stated that she did not know where she came from), but the father being in very bad health was admitted into the house, where he died, leaving three children who continued to be relieved; the two eldest went away, leaving Honora still a pauper on the union, until she was removed to Cork in October last. In her deposition on oath, before the magistrates, she states "that she was born in the county of Cork."

6538. That is, before the magistrates in Wales; the removing magistrates?—Yes. "That she was born in the county of Cork, which she left about one year ago"; her examination took place on the 24th of October, but she was not sent to Bristol, that is, to be removed to Ireland, until the 29th, during which time she had ample opportunities to let her relations know that she was to be sent, but the fact is, she had no relations in Cardiff, and she had never been in service there. She states that she was in service with a respectable lady, I believe; she had been requested by the matron to attend to an old woman who was a pauper; that was all the service that she had ever been employed in.

6539. I see that in the statement put in by Mr. O'Shaughnessy, she stated, "that from her infancy she had resided at Cardiff, in South Wales"; what does she state upon that subject before the magistrates?—In her deposition on oath before the magistrates, she states, "that she was born in the county of Cork, which she left about one year ago."

6540. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] I understand you to complain, not of the number of labourers who come over to you, but of the number of poor who come over, evidently for the purpose of seeking relief?—We do.

6541. How soon do they, in general, apply after their arrival?—They very often apply almost immediately. I have some extracts here from our relieving officer's statement on that head. Last winter a large family were brought to the relieving officer's door, in Cardiff, in a cart, having been landed at the docks in an exhausted and destitute condition, one of the children actually dying in his mother's arms, and he expired soon after he was taken to the house; that is a recent case.

A few weeks ago 9 or 10 individuals were also put on shore in the same wretched

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state, and application was made immediately to the officer so soon as they were landed; they went straight to the relieving officer for food; one of them is still an inmate of our workhouse.

6542. Do you know of any attempts having been made to discover the vessels that brought them over, or the parties?—We made an attempt, but we found it extremely difficult. We had one of the captains fined. Our union offered a reward for information against the captains for carrying passengers without a licence, or for having too great a number; but we found that the passengers were very reluctant to state the name of the vessel, or the name of the captain, or to give any account where they came from.

6543. In the case which you have mentioned, they appear to have been landed in Cardiff, at the docks?—In those cases which I have now given, they were landed at the docks.

6544. There was less difficulty in ascertaining the captain there?—Yes; but these cases are only few as compared with the importations which we had some years ago. I have before me very strong proof of the large numbers which we have received, if the Committee will allow me to refer to it. It is evidence taken by a Poor-law inspector, Mr. Boase, some years ago.

6545. *Chairman.*] Are you speaking of the year 1847?—1848, I think; 1847 and 1848.

6546. I believe that was a gentleman authorised by Mr. Charles Buller to collect evidence on the subject of vagrancy?—Yes, I believe so.

6547. And, I believe, his report was laid before Parliament?—Yes; it was presented to both Houses of Parliament.

6548. Are you going to read a passage from it?—If the Committee will allow me. I will refer to what applies to Cardiff: "A great many harvest men land at Newport and the Welsh ports; but by far the greater proportion of the Irish I saw in Wales were women with small children, old men apparently feeble, pregnant women, and girls and boys about ten years old. Great numbers of Irish are landed on the Welsh coast; but the amount cannot be ascertained or even guessed at. They are brought over by coal vessels as a return cargo (living ballast) at very low fares (2*s.* 6*d.* is the highest sum I heard of), huddled together like pigs, and communicating disease and vermin on their passage. Thrust on shore clandestinely, perhaps in the night (for there is great odium attached to the traffic), landed in the mud in some obscure part of the river, exhausted, faint, and feverish from privation of food and air; is it to be wondered at that these become the medium of extending fever and contagion into the heart of the kingdom, into the asylum of the poor, where it finds its most susceptible victims, and its greatest stronghold in the over-crowded rooms."

6549. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Does that description apply to the present state of affairs?—Not to the extent which it did at that period.

6550. Colonel *Blair.*] What is the date of that report?—1848.

6551. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Has there been any great demand for labour in that part of the kingdom lately?—We have had a good demand for labour in the public works, the railway, docks, &c.

6552. Is there so great a demand as to make it necessary for you to issue placards inviting labourers to come over?—I am not aware of any. The relieving officer of our union states that the paupers have told him that placards have been posted up in Cork, stating that there are parties who will meet them at our docks, and will employ them there at very high wages; but we have had nothing of the kind in Cardiff, and our officers are of opinion that those placards were posted by the captains of the vessels, who were anxious to take them over, for the small payment which they received for their passage, as they came over in ballast.

6553. *Chairman.*] So far as you know, had any authority been given by any persons in your union to issue such placards in Cork or anywhere else?—Certainly not.

6554. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you any inspector of lodging-houses in Cardiff?—Yes; the gentleman from whose reports I have read extracts, namely, Mr. Paine, performs that duty. We have also the superintendent of police; he acts as our assistant relieving officer; we have authorised him to relieve vagrants and other tramps, on account of the union.

6555. Is there any regular inspection and licensing of lodging-houses, so as to bring them under better control?—Yes. The town of Cardiff is under the Board of Health, consequently they are subject to those regulations.

6556. Has

6556. Has that made any difference in the numbers coming over?—We are of opinion that it is improving gradually; that the sanitary state of the town is improving in consequence of those restrictions which have been laid down. We very much dread the increase which would result from abolishing the power of removal. If residence is rendered unnecessary, we believe that we shall have an increase of at least one-third in our Irish paupers. We find that there are in Cardiff about 4,800 Irish; a census has been taken upon two or three occasions of the Irish resident in Cardiff; a census was taken last year; the Irish population was then 4,000; we believe that at present there are 4,800, and that 2,000 of them are now removable, not having had an industrial residence of five years.

6557. What was the Irish population by the Government census of 1851?—There is no separate account given; this was a census taken by other parties. I have made a comparison of the number of Irish paupers relieved in proportion to the number of Irish in the town, and have compared them with the paupers from the working classes and working mechanics of the town, excluding the Irish, and I make the Irish paupers to be about 36 per cent. of the Irish population of the town, while the paupers from all other classes are only 11 per cent.; that is, from the labouring portion of the population and the working mechanics in the town. If the Committee will allow me, I will state how I have arrived at that conclusion. We find that the population increased according to the last census, at the rate of 8 ½ per cent. per annum. In the Return of 1851, the population is given as 18,351, which would give for the present population 23,000. Deducting the Irish 4,800, it would leave other classes at 18,200; the only mode which I conceived for obtaining a correct account of the labouring portion of the population of Cardiff, was by taking the poor-rates and the number of ratepayers assessed at 7 *l.* and upwards in Cardiff (I know that many labourers pay a higher rent); however, I have taken 7*l.* and upwards, and the number is 1,570; I believe there are about 70 Irish included in that number, therefore I have deducted those, leaving 1,500 ratepayers. I have supposed that each family consists of four people; that would give 6,000 people in Cardiff who are above the lower orders, and who are occupiers of houses assessed at 7 *l.* and upwards; leaving for labourers and working mechanics 12,200, after deducting the 6,000 of the better classes.

6558. Mr. *Dunlop.*] And deducting also the Irish?—Yes, 4,800; that would be 10,800 deducted; the paupers from the 12,200, average for the last four years, as I stated before, 1,320, which is 11 per cent.; while the paupers from the Irish portion of the population are 36 per cent.. making some allowance for the removable portion.

6559. Mr. *Maguire.*] At what time was the last return made?—In March last.

6560. In the year ending March last, how many Irish paupers applied for relief?—I have no separate account of the applications; I have only an account of the number relieved, which I have just stated. The total number for the last four years is 8,074; that is a half-yearly account; we make up our accounts half-yearly.

6561. How many of those were removed?—One hundred and thirty-five, I find, were removed.

6562. In those four years?—Yes.

6563. I think you stated, that when you found that paupers who applied were likely to become chargeable on you for any time, you thought it advisable to send them back?—Yes.

6564. From the great disproportion between the number who obtained temporary relief, and the number removed, might I not draw the inference that the greater number of those who received temporary relief were able afterwards to support themselves?—We believe so; the threat of being sent back to Ireland deterred them from repeating their application.

6565. If they had not some means of self-support the threat would not be sufficiently powerful to counteract hunger, would it?—Of course not.

6566. You have had to send back only 135 out of 8,074?—Yes; that is what we actually did; we have found that latterly the expense of sending them back, in consequence of sending them to Bristol, has been very considerably increased; and we find it less expensive to relieve them at home; formerly we sent a much larger number, which I have an account of.

6567. But you conceive, at the same time, that it would be your duty to the ratepayers of Cardiff, where people were likely to become permanently chargeable, to send them back, do you not?—If they were likely to become constant paupers, certainly.

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6568. Then I suppose that as 135 were removed, those 135 were the number which you conceived would become permanently chargeable?—Yes; that was the proportion which were not deterred by our threats of removal.

6569. Do you think that the mere threat of removing a person to Ireland would prevent that person from applying to the workhouse, if that person were in a condition of starvation?—I do; and if the Committee will allow me, I will refer to strong facts to prove it. We have not kept any separate account in our union, nor am I aware that in the other unions in England it is done, of the number who have been threatened to be sent to Ireland and who have not gone; but in Scotland I find they have kept an account of paupers who ceased to be chargeable when threatened with removal to Ireland, which I have before me.

6570. Will you confine yourself to your own experience?—My own experience is, that I have frequently found paupers applying for relief in our board-room, and when I have told them that if they persisted in the application we must send them back to Ireland, I have found that they have withdrawn without pressing the claim, and we heard no more of them.

6571. Would you apply that as a general rule?—We find that it is done in a great many instances, not as a general rule, except with able-bodied men, with whom I should say it was a general rule when so threatened.

6572. You state to the Committee that you think it your duty, and that it is the practice of the Boards of Guardians, to send back all persons who are likely to become permanently chargeable upon you, and that out of 8,074 you sent back but 135 in four years?—We have considered it to be our duty, but I do not mean to say that we have carried it out to that extent; and it is evident by the few whom we have actually sent in proportion to the number relieved, that we have not carried it out.

6573. Which do you think is the more powerful inducement for a number of persons to come from Ireland, the temptation offered by your high class of diet, or the chance of obtaining employment in Wales?—I think both are inducements; I think our rate of wages is a very strong inducement for able-bodied men to come over; I find that the rate of wages in Ireland is only from 6 *s.* to 8 *s.* a week, and in our part it is about 12 *s.* for common labourers.

6574. Do you find the Irish very anxious to go into the workhouse?—A certain portion of them are quite willing to accept our workhouse diet; that applies to a certain class; I do not mean to say the able-bodied.

6575. Do you find, as a general rule, that the Irish are anxious to go into the workhouse?—No, I do not know that it is a general rule; when we decline to relieve them out, they accept the workhouse rather than be destitute.

6576. As a general rule, do not you find that the Irish have rather a distaste and aversion to the restriction, and confinement and separation of the workhouse, consequent upon proper discipline?—We found a greater aversion some time ago than we have lately found; we do not find that great aversion now.

6577. Do you think that the inducement of your superior diet is so powerful that it would bring an immense number of people from Ireland to enjoy it?—I do not know; but when we find them emigrating to America and Australia for a better diet, when they can get it so much nearer home by paying only 1 *s.* for the passage, I think it probable that they would come to us in still greater numbers if we had no power to send them back.

6578. Do you think there is any possible analogy between the emigration to America and Australia, and an emigration to England for the purpose of enjoying the workhouse diet, and undergoing the strictness of its discipline?—I cannot exactly say, but I think that, in some measure, there is; they complain of the destitute condition which they are in at home in Ireland, and the object of emigrating is to effect some improvement in their condition, I fancy.

6579. I believe it is known that in Australia the pay is often 10 *s.* a day to a labouring man?—I understand wages are high there.

6580. You stated that many of these people said that their passage was paid, but that they did not know by whom?—Yes.

6581. That was a statement which I think ought to have been inquired into, and I wish to know whether you investigated any of those cases; whether you endeavoured to get other information than from the persons who made it?—We could not obtain information except from the paupers themselves; we could not go to Ireland for the purpose, for we knew it to be useless.

6582. Was not it a statement which would rather induce you to get more information

information with reference to it?—We were unable to get the names of any of the parties; the paupers pleaded ignorance as to where the money came from which paid their passage; they said that all they knew was, that it was paid by other parties.

6583. Have many paupers stated that?—A great many from time to time.

6584. How many have stated it within the last year, to your knowledge?—I do not know in the last year, but in former years they have stated it to a very great extent indeed. I cannot charge my memory with any particular instance latterly, but I know that formerly when they came in larger numbers it was frequently stated, upon which I would also refer to Mr. Boase's report, which strongly confirms it.

6585. You have said that several paupers have stated that their passage-money was paid, and that they did not know by whom?—Yes.

6586. Is that such a statement as you would rely upon?—We have no reason to mistrust it; it is a statement made by the paupers themselves, who must know, and in the absence of any direct proof to the contrary, of course we consider that we ought to receive it as a fact.

6587. You have spoken of early marriages and illegitimate births as being common among the Irish?—I did not state that; I only read an extract from Mr. Paine's report.

6588. You do not think that the two terms are rather contradictory; do not they represent a different state of things?—Perhaps they do. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the Irish habits to enable me to give an opinion. I merely, with the permission of the Committee, read the extracts which I did from Mr. Paine's report on that subject.

6589. Generally speaking, illegitimate births are not very common among people who are addicted to early marriages?—I believe not.

6590. I do not know whether you or your informant said that the lower class of Irish invariably absent themselves during the confinement of their wives; do you know that of your own knowledge?—Yes; I can speak of it from applications having been made repeatedly to our relieving officer, and at our Board, for assistance when an Irish woman has been in confinement, and the husband has deserted her and run away; we have had it continually practised.

6591. Do you mean that he has deserted her, or that he has gone to procure employment?—They have absented themselves merely for the month, during the illness of the wife.

6592. With what object?—Merely that the union might maintain the wife and family during her confinement, knowing that she could not be brought into the house, of course from her illness.

6593. Would you say that it was more for the purpose of getting support and relief, than from want of natural affection?—We believe so, because we find that they return when the confinement is over.

6594. Then the wives are not deserted by them?—It is a temporary desertion during the confinement of the wife.

6595. Have you the number who applied for relief at Cardiff in 1847 and 1848?—This is from the statement of the superintendent of police to Mr. Boase, which, I think, is an answer to your question.

6596. *Chairman.*] You are about to read from Mr. Boase's report?—I am. "This system was continued until the distress occurred in Ireland, when the Cork vessels used to land the Irish poor here; at first, 13 or 14 in a vessel, then increasing to upwards of 200 in one vessel. I made various reports to the Marquis of Bute, our late Lord Lieutenant, at the time; a great many told me that Mr. ——, of ——, near Cork, had paid 2*s.* 6*d.* for their passage. I think in hundreds of instances, I was told this. They came direct to me or to the relieving officer, having been told in Ireland that they might depend upon being relieved immediately. They were many of them apparently starving, and many in an advanced stage of disease. One was found dead in the bottom of the hold, and an inquest was held on the body; many died shortly after landing."

6597. Mr. *Maguire.*] I asked you how many applied for relief in 1847 and 1848?—I am sorry to say that I am not prepared to answer that question.

6598. Of course there were many more than those who applied in the four years which you have stated. You have said that the number was 8,000 for four years?—Yes, a great many more.

6599. The numbers in 1847 and 1848 were vastly more than that, were they not?—Yes, they were.

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6600. *Chairman.*] Can you procure that information and forward it to me?—Yes, I shall be very happy to do so.

6601. Mr. *Maguire.*] With reference to the case of Swiney, did the authorities inquire whether that girl was really in service or not; whether she was in the service of a lady as she stated?—I was not present at the inquiry, but I have seen a copy of her deposition; we have the evidence of the relieving officer and of the matron, stating that she had been in no other service except attending a pauper, an old woman; she was in our workhouse destitute when removed.

6602. She also states that she was an orphan, but had a brother and sister living in Cardiff who were able and willing to support her?—Yes, all of which is incorrect; she had neither brother nor sister residing in Cardiff at the time.

6603. Have you positive proof of that?—Positive; her brother was in London; she had a brother and sister living, it is believed; and her sister was residing 25 miles distant; she had no relation at that time in Cardiff.

6604. Was her sister in employment?—I believe she was, but not in Cardiff.

6605. Perhaps she might have represented that place 20 miles distant as Cardiff, Cardiff being the nearest place to it?—That I do not know; but it is not likely.

6606. Do you know whether her brother lived in or near Cardiff?—No, he lived in London.

6607. At that time?—Yes.

6608. Are you positive of that?—All I know is, he went to London. I cannot be positive where he then was.

6609. Mr. O'Shaughnessy says, "She is a person of very decent manners, and has all the evidence of truthfulness"?—She had been a pauper all the days of her life; she was in the Cork Workhouse in the year preceding.

6610. This evidence was given by the clerk of the Cork guardians, who has been for several years connected with that union?—I do not for one moment doubt the witness's evidence.

6611. *Chairman.*] You mean that you do not doubt Mr. O'Shaughnessy's evidence?—I do not for a moment doubt that the gentleman who gave that evidence stated what was correct; but I think that it was misrepresented to him by the pauper.

6612. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] You were interrupted when you were going to state something with regard to Scotch pauperism; are you at all troubled in Cardiff with any Scotch paupers?—No, we have scarcely an instance; very few, at least.

6613. I think you stated that the cost of the Irish poor for the last four years was 2,530 *l.* to the Cardiff Union?—Yes, I think those were the figures.

6614. Does that include the cost for every kind of relief, out-door and in-door?—Yes, it does, as far as we could make it out from the statement which I have.

6615. Does it include the payment of their passages from Cardiff to Ireland?—No, it does not include that; merely the relief given in Cardiff.

6616. Merely the relief given in the workhouse, and out of the workhouse?—Yes.

6617. It does not include the expense of removal?—No.

6618. Nor the expense of the midwifery cases which you have named?—No, I believe not.

6619. Nor the expense of burials?—No, it does not; but merely the relief.

6620. Mr. *Maguire.*] If it be the fact that the poor Irish live in these rooms, which you say are overcrowded, do not you think it is a very proper thing on the part of the husband to leave the wife at such a time as her confinement, or to endeavour to procure her admission into the workhouse during that time?—If the object of his leaving was for the purpose of placing her in a better position in his absence by affording her more house-room, it might be a very praiseworthy thing on his part; but we believe that his object is merely to throw his family on the union during that period when we cannot take them into the house.

6621. Is it not the fact, that they live in very crowded apartments?—Yes, they do.

6622. You say the sexes are huddled together?—Yes.

6623. Then you do not think it is a very proper action on the part of that man to leave his wife at such a time; is it not rather to his credit, than the contrary, that such a thing might be mentioned?—I do not see that it redounds at all to his credit

credit to desert his family when they are in distress; I cannot view it in that light.

6624. If the wife and husband and family live in one room, and have only one room, do you not think it is a far more proper thing for the husband to leave that room than to be present during the confinement of his wife?—There is no doubt that it would be desirable if the husband had another room to retire to; but as he is not in a position to have a house giving him more than one room, he must be present there, or absent with his employment.

6625. Do not you think that his sense of decency, or his desire to obtain some relief, might be far more powerful in inducing him to leave than the mere desire to desert his wife?—As I stated before, if his absence is from a sense of decency, I say nothing against him; but my belief is the contrary.

6626. Might not the assumption that he did leave from a sense of decency, be based upon the fact that he and the family had only one room to live in?—That might be assumed, certainly.

6627. Is it not a very fair assumption?—I never find that they have that fine sense of decency which induces them to leave their families merely for the sake of decency.

6628. Mr. *Dunlop.*] Do you find that cases occur where, instead of going away from the town, the husband merely removes from the room and continues at his work?—Very frequently it happens, I believe, that the husband has not gone very far, but merely keeps out of the way while the union is maintaining his wife and family.

6629. But do you ever find that he remains in the town accommodating himself elsewhere?—Yes, there are cases of that description; he sometimes leaves the town, and at other times he may remain in the town, or immediately in the neighbourhood; but I believe his only motive for leaving is what I have stated.

6630. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Is labour scarce in Cardiff?—We have a very good demand for labour.

6631. What is the average rate of wages?—In the country it is now about 12 *s.*, but in Cardiff, at the works at the docks, which are now being enlarged, they give a higher rate of wages, 15 *s.*, and in some cases 18 *s.*

6632. A labouring man with a wife and two or three little children, and receiving 15 *s.* a week, ought and could afford to have them in a better condition than living all together in one room, as you have referred to?—Certainly; we find that our own labourers do so at that rate of wages, and often below.

6633. You never find the families of English labourers, receiving that amount of wages, crowded together in that way?—Not to the extent that we find the Irish do.

6634. Who are the parties that keep those lodging-houses; what countrymen are they?—They are many of them Irish; I know it, because they often apply for relief at the Board, and if we find that they are lodging-house keepers, we certainly do not countenance them much; we do not encourage them, and generally refuse relief.

6635. The very parties who keep those lodging-houses for the poor Irish, are so poor themselves, that they often come and ask for parochial relief?—They do frequently.

6636. You mentioned that it was the habit of the captains of vessels to land the paupers upon the coast; were they chiefly male or female paupers, or children?—Latterly the women and children have predominated very much; we have very few able-bodied men. I have here the evidence of the relieving officer to that effect, stating that the proportion of men is very small as compared with the women and children latterly.

6637. Have you any means of knowing whether the husbands came with them from Ireland, or whether they came apart?—In some cases they did; in a great many instances the women stated that they came after their husbands; that they had husbands in England, and had come to search for them; which frequently happens. Then children come over and state that they have come to look for their parents.

6638. Have you ever inquired whether they have been in the workhouses in Ireland, in some of those cases?—Yes, in some cases; in one instance a blind man had come over, and we were told that he came directly from the Cork Workhouse, that he had been an inmate of the Cork Workhouse for some time, and we were obliged to relieve him.

6639. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Did you remove him back to Ireland?—I cannot charge my memory; I know that we continued him for some time as a pauper; I really do not at this moment recollect what became of him.

6640. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] I think you are under the impression that a great many of those parties who come over to you are sent either by charitable people in Ireland, or at the expense of the workhouse, or of the place from which they come?—We were of that impression in the years 1847 and 1848, to a very great degree; I do not mean to say that we have the same evidence of it now as we had then, that their passage is paid, because they do not come over in such numerous bodies.

6641. Does the competition of Irish labour tend to increase the wages of labour, or to reduce them?—To reduce them.

6642. Therefore, by the reduction of the wages of labour, the English labourer is so far prejudiced?—He is.

6643. One gentleman in evidence stated here, that but for the low rate of labour in England, English labourers would marry at an earlier period; that if it were higher the English labourers would be enabled at an earlier period of life to marry, and thereby supply the country with a sufficient number of labourers without its being indebted to the sister country for that competition?—I must confess that I take a different view of it; I would not assent to that opinion.

6644. What is your view?—I think that if we look to Ireland it is quite the reverse; wages there are very low, and I think marriages take place at a very early age; I think the state of Ireland is at variance with that statement.

6645. Early marriages are a proof that the population is rapidly increased?—Yes.

6646. Then if you rapidly increase the labouring population you will meet the wants and demand for labour?—No doubt, if you increase it fast enough for the demand; labour, like any other commodity, of course, is regulated by the supply and demand.

6647. Generally speaking, if the wages of labour are high the labourer has more money to save, and if he is naturally inclined to get married he will get married earlier than if he has very bad wages; is that consistent?—I think it is.

6648. He will be more able to maintain a family?—Yes, if guided by provident feelings.

6649. Were such a thing obtained as the wages of labour being high, and the English labourers marrying in greater numbers at an earlier period, a larger amount of labouring population would be produced in England?—No doubt.

6650. Then that would render you entirely independent of the Irish population, or nearly so?—Exactly.

6651. Looking at the general character of the English labourer, his industrious habits, and his generally more obedient conduct, it would be a great advantage to England if we had the labouring population in a greater degree born of English parents and educated in English modes of life, and English habits of industry, cleanliness, &c.?—Yes, I think so.

6652. From your experience does the number of Irish mixed with the English population of the labouring classes, tend to raise the moral character of the English labourer?—I believe not; it has a tendency the other way, to enhance the character of the Irish labourer; that is my impression.

6653. Then the Irish labourer does imitate and follow some of the best practices of the English labourer?—Yes, after a residence of some years and mixing with our labourers at home, they adopt their habits, and they live more comfortably; they are better clothed and better fed than we find they are when they first arrive.

6654. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] From the considerations suggested in the questions of the Honourable Member who examined you last, do you think that it would be desirable to exclude Irish labourers from the English labour market?—No, I do not.

6655. Why?—I have stated before that in a public point of view, I see no evil in equalising the value of labour over the country generally; but I consider it a great grievance that a few situations should be burthened so heavily as we are in Cardiff, by effecting an object which I consider desirable.

6656. Then is it your opinion that the competition of the Irish labourer is advantageous to the community at large?—I believe so to the employers of labour; I have

I have experienced the advantage of it; I have employed a good many labourers myself, and I have found the advantage of having occasionally the assistance of Irish labourers.

6657. Notwithstanding the tendency which you have conceived that that competition has to depreciate the English labourer, and to lower the wages of the English labourer?—No doubt it must have that tendency, while it benefits the Irish labourer.

6658. You think that the competition is advantageous, notwithstanding those effects?—Upon the whole, in a public point of view, I think it is only fair that the Irish labourer should participate in the high rate of wages which we pay in England. I consider it advantageous to the employer and the employed.

6659. Is that your opinion, not merely with reference to the interest of the Irish labourer, but in reference to the interest of the English employer or the English community?—I should say for the public generally; I will not say for individual cases, but in a public point of view, I think it is only fair that the rate of labour should be equalized over the country generally, provided it can be accomplished without inflicting any serious grievance upon any portions of the country.

6660. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] What do you understand by the interest of the public?—I consider that enhancing the rate of labour in Ireland would be a most desirable thing for the public good; it must reduce the poor-rates, I fancy, and better the condition of the lower orders; at present it is far too low there.

6661. Would enhancing it by labouring in the sister country be an advantage?—I do not mean to say that it would be an advantage to the labourers here, but all employers of labour derive an advantage from Irish labour at a low rate.

6662. Then it is the employer and not the country who, the Committee are to understand, would get a benefit from it?—Yes; all the large manufacturing interests derive an advantage from the low rate of labour.

6663. Are you aware that the large manufacturing interests form but a small proportion of the British community?—They form a large proportion; but there is the agricultural interest also who employ largely the Irish labourers; I have employed them largely myself.

6664. Are the wages of the English labourer in the country at that rate at which he could live comfortably?—Generally speaking they are, I consider.

6665. What are his wages?—Twelve shillings the country labourer, and on certain works he gets 15 *s.* and 18 *s.* in the manufacturing districts; in Cardiff and at the docks and the iron works they get 15 *s.* to 18 *s.* weekly.

6666. Would you say that 7 *s.* or 8 *s.* a week, for an agricultural labourer, were ample wages?—No, I should say not.

6667. Are you aware that in Devonshire, and Somersetshire, and Wiltshire, and those counties, the rate of wages rarely exceeds 8 *s.*?—I understand it is very low; I have no means of knowing the exact rate paid there; but I think it is far too low, according to the present price of food.

6668. Any competition to reduce that amount you think would be a great grievance upon those labourers?—No doubt, if the wages are already as low as you state.

6669. Colonel *Blair.*] Among the number of those who land in your district, the proportion of those who are fit for labour is very small?—Very small latterly; much less than formerly.

6670. Therefore you consider that the disadvantages of having to maintain those paupers are not counterbalanced by the advantages which the district derives from the supply of labour?—Certainly not latterly, because we have so small a proportion of able-bodied men; but we import at Cardiff for other places who derive advantage from them.

6671. Mr. *J. Ball.*] With reference to the questions which have just been put to you, does not the welfare of the whole British community depend very materially upon the welfare of the producing, the manufacturing, and the commercial portions of the country?—It does.

6672. Does not the condition of those portions of the country depend very much upon the general rate of wages in competing with producers in other countries?—I conceive it does.

6673. Do you think that any state of the law which should interfere to prevent the natural tendency of labour to seek its own market would be a benefit to the community in this country?—I should say that it would be an evil, provided

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vided, as I qualified it before, that you do not inflict any grievance upon some localities.

6674. Setting aside for the moment any grievance to localities, and looking to the effect upon the poor themselves, though there may be an inconvenience in the labouring class of any poorer districts migrating and mixing with the labouring class of a richer district, still, upon the whole, that is a process which is essential to the general prosperity of the country?—Yes, I am fully of that opinion.

6675. Whether it is applied to Somersetshire or to Ireland?—Yes.

6676. Practically, from the experience which you have had of the effect of the present state of the law, is the evil that you fear the influx of Irish labour or the influx of Irish persons who are unable to labour, and unable to support themselves?—In the locality in which I happen to be placed we feel the grievance very great indeed of the influx of Irish paupers. Probably in some remote part of our country, take our manufacturing district 20 or 30 miles distant, they derive an advantage from the presence of Irish labourers; we experience the inconvenience and the burthen, as they considerably increase our parochial rates.

6677. Then if the law interfered to prevent the arrival of persons unable to support themselves, would you think it necessary to maintain any power of removal as to the labouring class?—I am not prepared to give up the power of removal altogether until I see how the arrival of such persons is to be prevented.

6678. At the same time you have stated that the practical inconvenience is mainly felt from the arrival of paupers who are not labourers, nor able to maintain themselves by labour?—Yes.

6679. Suppose the law were to make it practically impossible either for persons in Ireland to send over paupers, or for paupers to come of their own accord, in order to seek relief in England, do you think that that would furnish a sufficient remedy to the evil of which you complain in your own locality?—Perhaps that would be rather too stringent a measure. I am not prepared to say that; it would not produce that result, but I am at a loss to know how that could be effected.

6680. Are you aware that there are prosperous districts in Ireland, such as the town of Belfast, where the rate of wages is much higher than in the rural districts, and the condition of the poor much better; but that the law in Ireland is sufficient to prevent the influx of persons into those districts?—I was not aware that there was any law in Ireland to prevent the influx of parties anywhere, because there are no settlements, I believe, in Ireland.

6681. You are not perhaps aware that the law in Ireland makes it punishable for a person to go from one place to another for the purpose of obtaining relief?—I was not aware of that.

6682. And perhaps you are not now prepared to give an opinion whether a state of the law similar to that now existing in Ireland would give the same protection to the English ratepayers which it does give to the Irish ratepayers in the properous districts of Ireland?—Certainly not; I understand the question to refer merely to applying for relief.

6683. Yes?—I of course cannot give an opinion upon its effects in Ireland; I know that there is no such law in England.

6684. You would not like at present to give an opinion that that might not be sufficient for the main object which you think it necessary to attain, namely, the protection of the English ratepayer against the mere influx of pauperism?—It would be extremely difficult, perhaps, to define when a party comes over here what his object is; I do not know exactly what test you could apply. With the large emigrations which we have had from Ireland of Irish people they may state, "We have come here to look for work, but have not been able to obtain it; not for the purpose of getting relief;" but in all cases of destitution we are obliged to relieve them.

6685. At the same time, the law might provide that an application for relief within a short period of the arrival in England, or public begging, should be taken as evidence that the person had come rather for the object of obtaining relief than for the object of obtaining employment?—That might be assumed, certainly; it depends much, perhaps, upon the length of the passage; if the parties have had a short passage they may have means to maintain themselves for a few days till they obtain labour. On the other hand, they may have been two or three weeks coming over in traders, which have been wind-bound; in that time they have exhausted all their means, and are obliged to apply for relief immediately on their arrival.

6686. Without

6686. Without entering into a consideration of the details of such a change of the law, still, if those details could be so arranged that practically the influx of pauperism was effectually checked, without interfering with that interchange of labour which you admit to be desirable, do you not think it would be an improvement upon the present state of the law?—I think it would. If it could be clearly ascertained that the avowed object of coming over was merely to obtain relief, I think it very desirable to have some means of preventing it, and of punishing the parties.

6687. Mr. *Maguire.*] I think you said, in answer to an Honourable Member who examined you from the other side of the table, that you had not the same proof now that Boards of Guardians sent over paupers to your union; have you any proof at the present moment?—None, excepting in the evidence which I have read. I shall be happy to read it from this statement, which was obtained not for the object of this inquiry.

6688. *Chairman.*] What statement is that?—Mr. Boase's.

6689. In 1848?—Yes. "My suspicions were much more excited by the appearance of the Irish landed in Wales, that they had been got rid of as burdens, or probable burdens, upon society at home." "Not one-half of the Irish are able-bodied; I believe that they are sent here because they are likely to be chargeable at home." "These men told me that there were numbers of Irish in this country who had their passage to England given them free." "Catherine White and Mary Bass, Irish vagrants, with two children, each natives of Cork, had their passage given them to Bristol, because they could get nothing in their own country."

6690. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are you not aware that the Boards of Guardians in Ireland cannot expend a single penny for that object?—I understand that they have no authority for doing so; whether it can be done indirectly or not, I do not know.

6691. Are you aware that all the accounts of the Boards of Guardians pass through the hands of auditors, who will not pass any item but what is a legal one?—I believe that the Poor Law Commissioners have the same control over the unions in Ireland which the Poor Law Board has here, and they would not tolerate such a payment; but it is possible to make such a payment without passing it through the account.

6692. If some dozen witnesses were examined before this Committee, and all stated positively that no such thing ever was practised or tolerated, or thought of for a moment, would you not then be rather more inclined to give credence to their assertion, than to the loose statement of a pauper?—I no doubt should not dispute their statement, but all I have to state is, that the paupers say that they had their passage paid, by whom they did not know. It may be a wrong conclusion on our part that it has been paid by some of the authorities, but it has doubtless been paid by parties aggrieved by their remaining in Ireland, and therefore they have wished to get rid of them. The paupers themselves are quite sure they did not pay themselves, which they must know.

6693. Have you asked any of those paupers whether the Board of Guadians of the union from which they came paid for their passage?—We have pressed them to state the names of the parties, and have asked them whether they could give us any idea from what source the money came; but they have pleaded ignorance invariably.

6994. If those paupers received such money from the Board of Guardians, they would know it, I suppose, would they not?—No; the paupers would not be likely to inquire where it came from.

6695. Would not a pauper know if a Board of Guardians paid for his passage?—If it was done publicly at a public meeting he would know it, otherwise if it was handed over to him by another party, he perhaps would not take the trouble to inquire where the money came from.

6696. Therefore, this impression seems to rest upon your mind that those Boards of Guardians might not do it in an open manner, but might do it by some sort of collusion?—That is the impression on my mind; probably not the Board of Guardians, but other parties.

6697. If it be stated by gentlemen of high character, the chairmen of Boards of Guardians and others, upon whose statement you ought to rely, that no such thing is ever tolerated, that no such thing is ever done, and that there is no idea entertained of practising any such thing, would not your belief in such a practice

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entirely vanish?—I should not deny any such statements on the part of respectable gentlemen.

6698. Have you read the evidence before this Committee?—Only a very small portion of it indeed.

6699. Have you read the answers given by any of those persons to questions bearing upon that particular point?—I do not think I have.

6700. *Chairman.*] You have not read the statements of any of those gentlemen who said, that as far as their own knowledge went there was no such practice?—No.

Mr. *James Salter*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Salter.*

6701. *Chairman.*] ARE you the relieving officer of the Newport Union, in Monmouthshire?—I am for the central district.

6702. How long have you been so?—Nearly six years; and I was well acquainted with the nature of parochial matters before I held this office, having been surveyor of the town and actuary of the savings bank, which office I at present hold.

6703. But for six years you have been relieving officer?—Yes, and conductor of the Irish poor to Ireland under the magistrates' orders.

6704. Can you give the Committee an account of the class of persons who arrive from Ireland, what we may call the class whom you have to deal with?—They appear to be very destitute, very ignorant, and very unfit persons to come into a town to obtain a livelihood.

6705. Do you mean that that is the general character of the class—Of those who have come under my own observation, I think it is the general character.

6706. Do you mean those who have applied to you for relief?—Yes.

6707. Are applications made to you for relief frequently very soon after landing?—Almost immediately. When I am in the town, or near to the vessel, for when I know that a vessel is coming in I am generally near to it, the first inquiry is for the relieving officer, and it is lamentable to see many of the poor creatures there at the time.

6708. In what state are they?—Nearly all half naked; they have a very emaciated appearance; they appear likewise to be half starved, and very filthy.

6709. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Do your observations apply to the present period?—Yes; they are half starved, and very filthy; in fact some of them are full of vermin; if they are men they are generally decrepid or diseased objects, and there are many women and children who appear to be quite destitute.

6710. *Chairman.*] Is this state of things which you are describing, one which exists down to the present time?—I have had within the last six weeks three or four rather lamentable cases to contend with: in one case there was a man of the name of John Salter, a madman; the superintendent of police, who is the assistant relieving officer, purposely to attend to the vagrants, sent to me to know what was to be done, that they had taken this man up; I had a medical man to visit him and examine him, and a magistrate of the county likewise, and the medical attendant of the union pronounced him to be insane. He said that he came from Ireland, but we could not get from him the means by which he obtained possession of the money to come over, nor the way in which he was put on board; but he said that he had come to Newport that day, and that he had nowhere to go at all; two policemen were with him; he evidently overpowered one, a very strong man, and he seemed to be quite dangerous; in the course of three days he was sent, in charge of the policemen, to the asylum at Abergavenny, where he at present is, costing the parish 8 *s.* 6 *d.* a week, about 21 guineas a year, and there he will be, we suppose, till he dies.

6711. You say he appeared to be insane?—He is evidently mad.

6712. Was he able to give you any coherent account of himself at all?—No; he gave a very incoherent account of himself; if you put questions he would look at you for more than a minute, and then reply, evidently retaining the question in his mind, and, after some time, he would reply to the question, sometimes rather coherently, and sometimes very incoherently.

6713. Have you had any account from anybody else about his being landed?—No, we got no account; the superintendent sent to me, and I went to the police station at once about it.

6714. And you questioned him and obtained those answers?—Yes, the same answer

answer as he had given to the superintendent of police, who had previously questioned him.

6715. Is there any other particular case which you wish to mention?—There was a very lamentable case about four of five weeks ago of a man of the name of Keene. I think last Friday three weeks or month, when I was paying my weekly paupers, he came to the union to my office; I heard a cry that a child was dying. I gave the porter the money which was on the table and the orders, and I went out and found this man with his wife, and, I think, five or six children, but with a child in her arms; the child appeared very much emaciated, and was turning up its eyes. I thought it was fainting; I called the master of the workhouse, who got some wine and gave it a little, and I immediately ordered the mother to take it to the hospital, which was about 150 yards from the spot, and was nearer to the medical men than we were, but before the mother arrived at the hospital the child died. The man said that they were literally starving, that he was a baker by trade, and that he came from Bantry; the whole family looked most emaciated. We sent them to the hospital, for the sake of giving them food and keeping them there a certain time till they got better. The child had been ill.

6716. When had they arrived?—Three or four days before, I think he said, and that he had been looking for employment or looking for some means of support. Last Monday fortnight I sent them back, under a magistrate's order.

6717. Did you learn how they had got over?—He said that his sister gave him a little money, and he saved what few pence he could, from time to time, to come over.

6718. Is there any other case which you wish to mention?—About the same time a poor wretched blind woman was brought to my office by her daughter. I think this blind woman was 74; I forget the age of the woman, but she was stone blind, entirely destitute, and said she wanted to get up to her son's in Gray's Inn lane.

6719. In London?—In London; but she was very unable to proceed, and I found it my duty to give her an order into the hospital. The hospital is a building attended to by two nurses, and under the sanction of the Poor Law Board, and connected with the union. I desired the nurse to take care of the old woman, and keep her till she was better, and if she thought proper to proceed to London, to let her; that if not, I must send her to Ireland with the daughter. She got better some time after, and she left the hospital, and I have heard nothing more of her.

6720. Was she destitute when she came?—Entirely so; she said she had nothing to eat.

6721. How long before applying to you had she landed?—A day and a half they had been begging about; she said that the day before yesterday she had arrived, and had been begging about the place.

6722. What is that paper which you now hold in your hand?—These are some minutes which I made myself, thinking that I might be called upon to answer as to these cases.

6723. Have you any other case?—There is a particular case which I should like to mention, although it was not altogether concerning me as relieving officer, but more so as conductor of the Irish poor; it is the case of a poor widow coming from Cork a few days before, and going to Abergavenny.

6724. With any children?—With six children. Three or four days afterwards I received an order from Abergavenny, brought by an officer as to this woman and children, and curiosity induced me to take this statement; and if the Committee will allow me, I will read the statement which she made.

6725. Did she apply to you?—She only applied to me in this way as conductor; she was brought to me as conductor.

6726. Did she know who you were at the time she made this statement?—She knew I was relieving officer at the time; it was previously to my sending her to the vessel that she made the statement.

6727. She made a statement to you?—Yes, I merely asked her, and she made it.

6728. Will you read it?—"Bridget Sullivan states; I am a widow and have eight children, and was living at Bantry, about 40 miles from Cork; about a month ago my eldest daughter left Bantry for Wales, and on last Friday week, the 2d instant, I was wishful to go to Wales myself with my children; some men allowed me to ride in a car from Bantry to Ballycolley, and from there I went to Cork;

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Cork; on Tuesday after, I went to Mr. Adams, the poor overseer (that was the term she gave), and told him that I wanted bread for my children and myself, and asked him for relief, and I also asked him to send me to Wales by the 'Wave of Cork,' Captain John Sutton, and begged him to give me a note to Captain Sutton to take me to Newport. He asked me what I should do there, and I told him that many people said that at Abergavenny my eldest boy and girl would earn 10*s.* a week, and everything there was so nicely to be got; he said, I think they are too young for that, and I said, if you will only send me over, I am satisfied with the good account. He then went to Captain Sutton and asked him to take me, and the captain agreed, and I promised Mr. Adams to send him back 10*s.* when I got it in Wales. The captain kept me on biscuits and coffee, and when I came to Newport he gave me 6*d.*, and afterwards 4½*d.*, and potatoes and meat. I declare that but for the good report I had, I should not have come; and if Mr. Adams had not spoken to the captain I could not have come. The mark × of Bridget Sullivan, 14th June 1854."

6729. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are you certain that she gave the name of Adams?—Yes.

6730. There is no such person in Cork?—I knew nothing of the name till she told me.

6731. *Chairman.*] You do not know anything of it of your own knowledge?—No; this is merely her statement.

6732. Whether it is true or false, you derived this information from her?—Yes. I know nothing about it; curiosity induced me to take it.

6733. Mr. *Maguire.*] So far as her statement is concerned, you have no doubt as to the name of Adams?—No doubt whatever.

6734. *Chairman.*] You are sure that she gave you the name of Adams?—Yes, in the presence of the Abergavenny officer; I know nothing of the name there at all.

6735. Have you any other case; have you a case of the name of Mary Connor?—I have a case of Mary Connor, who is receiving weekly pay, and it is certainly a proof that they come over without any object whatever in the way of getting a living. I think that about last August or September she came over, with her husband, a sickly man; the man was very ill in Pill, and I went down and found this man apparently in the last stage of decline. I sent for the medical man to see him; the medical man of that district came and said that the man would soon die, being in the last stage of consumption. The man died, and we have now the woman upon the common fund of the union for 12 months. Last Saturday week I said, "You had better prepare, because, after being a widow 12 months, our Board will not be able to give you any more money; you must be removed to Ireland." She said, "My husband is dead and buried here, and you cannot send me to Ireland." It struck me that this woman had no object whatever in coming over but to obtain a better kind of relief than she considered she could obtain in Ireland, in consequence of the distressed state which they were in by her husband's sickness and her own destitution. It is reported by many that they are much better treated in Wales than in Ireland, and it struck me forcibly that they came over to obtain that better accommodation and treatment in her husband's condition than they would have in Ireland, because they have a very great dread of the workhouse in Ireland.

6736. Have you heard that from paupers themselves?—Yes, hundreds of them.

6737. They have told you what?—That they would rather starve in Wales than go to Ireland. The difficulty is to keep from offering them the workhouse; the only thing which has any effect upon them is the threat under a magistrate's order to send them back to Ireland.

6738. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you know how the poor are treated in the hospitals of the workhouses in Ireland?—No.

6739. *Chairman.*] Do you know anything of a practice of the captains putting the people on shore before they reach the port?—Yes, continually.

6740. Will you explain to the Committee what you know upon that subject?—There is a place within three miles of Newport called the Lighthouse; it is invariably the practice (so I am told by the poor people who have been so used) to put them on shore there; many of them have been called upon by the captain to get out in that part of the river, and have been told that it would be much better for them, that there was not water enough to take them up to Newport, and that they would get to Newport much better, and obtain relief much sooner, by getting out there. Sometimes they send from 20 to 30 out of the vessel at this

this place, before they come to Newport, and when the Custom-house officer comes to the vessel in Newport to examine whether the captain has more than his licensed number, of course he finds that his number is invariably under the licence, because the number who exceeded the licence have been unshipped within three miles of Newport. Sometimes these very parties are in Newport before the vessel arrives, or sometimes they wander in other parts of the country and get to Cardiff, and do not reach Newport for two or three days.

6741. The object of the captain, as you understand, is to avoid the consequences of having a crew in excess of his licence?—That is one object, but I think there is another object; there is generally an appearance of dissatisfaction in the port when these Irish arrive; the lower kind of people get around, and they use no measured terms of severity and taunt towards the captain for bringing such numbers over. I think that one cause is the fear of exceeding his number, for which he would have a penalty imposed upon him; and that the other, is the dislike which he has to the jeers and sneers of the people on shore.

6742. What is the ground of that hostility on the part of the people there?—They say that these people are coming to eat them up; that they are poor enough themselves, and they believe that they will be made poorer than they are through their coming; that is their general impression.

6743. Is this state of things which you have described, one which is continuing down to the present time, or which has continued to a recent period?—It is continually occurring up to the present time; I will mention a case which I tried to get brought before the magistrate to fine the captain, but I could not; it was the case of a very respectable looking and intelligent man of the name of Allen, an old man, and he had his daughter with him; he said that he had been a schoolmaster in Cork, I think. How I found him first was this; he said that he was a member of the Baptist denomination. On the Thursday evening, I saw a stranger at the chapel which I attended, and he came to me and asked me if I knew where the relieving officer lived. I immediately asked him what he wanted, and he said he wanted some assistance. I asked who he was and what brought him there; he did not know that I was the relieving-officer at all; then he told me the circumstance of his coming to seek for his son, who was at Risca, about five miles from Newport; he said that he had heard he was there; that he had been some time out of employment in Cork, and came over; that the vessel was very crowded; that he was down in the hold, and on coming up, about three miles from Newport, he found that some of the people were gone, and he enquired of his daughter, and she said that the boat belonging to the ship had been backwards and forwards three or four times, taking several, 10 or 20 on shore every time. I told him to come to my house the next morning; I privately assisted him then, and he came and brought his daughter with him, and the daughter's statement was the same to me as the father had made from her. I took the parties to the Custom-house; I saw the comptroller there, and inspector of vessels, but they said that the evidence was not explicit enough to obtain a conviction against the captain, and consequently they could not do anything with it, as the girl seemed not very willing to swear to the fact, and the father said that he knew nothing of it but what the girl stated to him. That was a very short time back.

6744. I suppose you remember the state of things in 1847?—I was then surveyor of the town of Newport, and I remember my predecessor having his house beset continually with these poor creatures in the street, who were evidently in the greatest want and the greatest state of sickness, when fever was raging very much.

6745. Have you ever known it so bad as it was in 1847?—No.

6746. Have you any information as to the manner in which the expenses of these people coming over to Wales are paid?—I have particularly made that a point of inquiry, but I have never been able fully to ascertain; there are so many strange statements. About six weeks ago I thought I should get hold of some information; there was a man who appeared very intelligent, and I questioned him upon the matter. I said, "Well, but how did you obtain the means of coming over, if you are so poor?" He said, "Some of them have a better chance of coming over than I have; if I had my priest to go to I could have some money, perhaps, but being a Protestant I had no money to come over with from my priest; I had no priest to assist me; the only thing I have is my character from my priest." I then questioned him as to Roman-catholics receiving money from their priests, or from anybody belonging to their religious denomination. He said, "I am not a Roman-catholic;" and I could get no other inform-

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ation from him than that. Many of the parties have told me that Father So-and-so (mentioning the name of the priest) has assisted them over; other parties have said that they have saved a little money, or that their sister or brother has sent them over from England 1*s.* 6*d.* or 2*s.* by Post-office order to come over. Many curious statements with respect to their coming over have been made to me, from time to time.

6747. Colonel *Blair.*] When you say their brother and sister, you mean people who have preceded them?—Yes, parties in England; sometimes in London, and sometimes in Wales; and sometimes the labourers, who have gone back again, have taken a few shillings with them to tell them to come over as soon as they could, but they have generally been in destitution when they have arrived.

6748. *Chairman.*] Have you any information to give to the Committee as to the expense caused by Irish pauperism to your union?—We have different classes of expense; we have the expense of relieving those who may be termed casual paupers; then we have the vagrant expense, which is distinct from the other expense, and we have the expense of the permanent paupers, who are Irish.

6749. Will you give the Committee information upon that point?—We have very heavy expenses, what we call casual expenses, incurred by means of midwifery cases and funerals; the midwifery cases are paid for extra to the medical men for their attendance; and it is a most strange thing that we invariably find that every Irish labourer, by means of his friends, or some nurse attending the wife, will make application for the doctor to attend the wife in her labour; I hardly know any case of an Irish labourer in Newport where, when the time of labour approaches, an application is not immediately made for the medical man.

6750. Do you mean to the parish?—To the relieving officer for the parish medical man; and, as relieving officer, of course I do not often refuse it, although I think it a very great hardship indeed, because I find that the wives of the Welch and the wives of the English bear a very small proportion indeed to the number of applications with respect to the Irish wives.

6751. Can you state the proportion?—I consider that the midwifery cases in my own district, that is, simply in the central district of Newport, amount extra to from 114 *l.* to 120 *l.* a year, including accidents.

6752. The Irish?—The Irish; I do not think that the sum for English and Welsh would be more, upon the average, than 10 *l.*

6753. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] Will you explain what the items of the expenditure are?—Half a guinea for the medical man in a general case of labour, and a guinea in a protracted case.

6754. Is that sum which you mention made out of those fees paid to the medical officers, or does it comprise any relief besides?—This is simply the fees paid to medical officers.

6755. *Chairman.*] Is the aggregate number of Irish cases to the aggregate number of English and Welsh as 140 to 10?—The midwifery cases are in that proportion.

6756. Do you mean that there are 140 Irish where there are 10 English and Welsh; you say that the one is 140 *l.* and the other 10 *l.*?—Yes.

6757. Is the 140 *l.* paid for the Irish cases?—Yes.

6758. And about 10 *l.* for the English and Welsh cases?—Yes; I find the disproportion very great, for this reason; I imagine that the Welsh and English poor seem at all times to prefer a woman to attend them; the Irish invariably call out for the medical man; but there, I imagine, they have an ulterior object in doing so; they generally obtain relief a few days afterwards, in consequence of the sickness of the wife; a note comes from the medical man, saying that so and so is ill, and requires relief; I investigate the matter, and generally find that it is in consequence of confinement; I then act up at once to the doctor's note, and relieve them, after I find it requisite that relief should be given.

6759. Is there any other head of expense?—There are the expenses of funerals. As in midwifery cases, so in cases of funerals; there is an invariable application for burial; there they would be if I did not give an order to the undertaker to bury these parties. The expenses of funerals amount to from 136 *l.* to 140 *l.* in the year.

6760. Of Irish?—Yes; generally children.

6761. What is the expense of the English and the Welsh funerals?—Very little more than the proportion of the labour cases; sometimes we have to assist in finding them ground in the English cases, or the Welsh cases.

6762. It has been said here by a witness that he had noticed that the Irish poor

poor were improvident in their habits; have you made any observation upon that subject?—They are most improvident. I have known cases of emergency where men have been engaged in unloading vessels, as what are called hoblers; they have sometimes got from 28 *s.* to 30 *s.* in the course of the week; they have received their money probably on the Friday night, after the vessel has been unloaded; perhaps an accident has occurred to them, and it is not an uncommon case, for there have been many cases like it, that at the beginning of the next week I have found them entirely destitute; they have made application for medical relief, and they have immediately had any necessaries that the doctor may have certified to me that they have been in need of. To show their improvidence in these matters, I would mention that I have been actuary of the savings bank for the last 20 years. I suppose from 80,000 *l.* to 100,000 *l.* have passed through my hands by way of receipts or payments, with probably from 4,000 to 5,000 depositors; a great many of those depositors have been agricultural labourers or mechanics, or different workmen in the town and vicinity of Newport; and I think during the whole of that time we have not had 10 Irish labouring depositors in our savings bank; that I have particularly noticed for years, before I had any idea of being relieving officer in the town, or having anything to do with them. They appear to have continually the expectation, that on any kind of distress befalling them they are immediately to have parochial assistance; it is the custom which I have experienced with them.

6763. They are hard-working while they are at work, are they not?—Some of them are very hard-working men, some are very valuable men.

6764. Is there more of this improvidence in them than in the English and Welsh: we know that there are improvident people belonging to all countries?—When I find that some equally hard-working men, and with the same number of children, Welshmen or Englishmen, can lay by a shilling or two a week from the same amount of wages which they receive, and put it in the savings bank, for cases of necessity, and when I find that the Irish are not saving a penny, I at once assume that they are much more improvident than the English or the Welsh.

6765. You have had the management of these removals, I think you say, for some years?—I was appointed by the quarter sessions as conductor of the Irish poor.

6766. Can you inform the Committee of the number of Irish removals for the last few years?—Yes; the number of Irish removals are, in proportion to everything, very small indeed; I commenced my office in the autumn of 1848, and from that time, during the whole of 1849, I did not remove one; I thought I would try the effect of doing what I possibly could, and not removing any.

6767. Are you the only person who removes?—I am the conductor for the county of Monmouth.

6768. All that were removed would have passed through your hands?—Yes; I am speaking now of my own cases, and not of any other parishes or unions in Monmouthshire.

6769. Are you speaking of the parish of Newport?—The borough of Newport, and the parish of St. Woollos. In 1849 I had one or two orders from Pontypool, or from Abergavenny, to remove certain parties, but from my own practice I had not one in the year 1849; I then imagined that they were increasing too much, and I found it requisite to begin to remove them; and in 1850 I began to remove them; I had then 15 parties removed.

6770. Does that mean 15 orders of removal, or 15 persons?—Fifteen persons; some with four or five children, some with one or two children; these were generally widows and children. I think I have never removed an able-bodied man at all, the whole of the time that I have been engaged. I make a point of refusing them relief altogether, and tell them to go about their business and do what they can. I have had many applications from those parties, at the end of the year, for orders of removal to Ireland, but I invariably resist it; after two or three applications, for two or three days they wander about, and I hear nothing more of them.

6771. Do they come to you and apply to be removed to Ireland?—Yes. I refuse in the autumn, I dare say, eight or ten upon the average, in the course of of the day, for perhaps a fortnight or three weeks.

6772. What is the class of men who apply to you?—Men who have been up to London, or in different parts of the country, to work during the harvest; they generally get some little money and go back in the winter. I have had many of them searched, and I have scarcely ever found anything upon these individuals; but I have subsequently found that they have employed a man that

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they have had confidence in, and this man has been their cashier; he has had the whole of the money; he himself has preceded them by a vessel, having purchased his own passage to Ireland, and left these parties to apply to me for orders of removal to send them home, or for assistance; they ask more for assistance to send them home than anything else.

6773. Have you evidence which satisfies your mind of that fact?—Yes; sometimes the parties have told me so. Sometimes they have accused the individual of running away with the money, saying that they have given their money to such a person, and that he has run off with it. I have occasionally found money upon them.

6774. Will you proceed with the number of removals?—In 1851 we had 24; in 1852, 49; in 1853, 66; and up to March 1854, I have removed 34 individuals.

6775. These are all individuals, not cases?—These are all individuals; they average about three. We have had some extraordinary cases removed this year; many widows and children; from January the 1st to March the number has been 34. The expense of removals has been 48 *l.* 10 *s.* 10 *d.* during the whole of the six years.

6776. Have you many cases of Irish who have become irremovable under the five years' Act?—Yes, we have a good number of them; but they are very changeable, which I often think is a very good thing for the town and borough. At present there are 12 men, 47 women, and 98 children irremovable; these are out-door paupers; the men are not able-bodied of course, or they would not receive the money, but they are decrepid and infirm men, or aged; that is the reason why they are receiving out-door relief; the women and children are most of them widows and orphans, and they receive about 287 *l.* 9 *s.* in the year.

6777. Have you any information to give the Committee about the vagrancy of the class of poorer Irish?—Yes; the numbers of vagrants vary very much continually; last year they had lessened very much, while the expense has increased; we have not had so many applications in the last year, but I think I can give the gentlemen of the Committee a reason why it is; they invariably applied to me, and I gave them orders to the House of Refuge, and tickets for bread; the Board of Guardians began to think that this was becoming a very important and heavy expense; they looked more at the number than they did at the actual amount of relief, and they adopted another plan, which was, to appoint the superintendent of police the assistant relieving officer, and instead of allowing vagrants to come to my office for tickets for relief, and admission to the House of Refuge, they are invariably sent to the police station, to the superintendent of police, where they receive a ticket in the same way; but they have a very great disinclination to go to the police station for a ticket. I consider now that it is a matter of the greatest necessity if they accept of a ticket at all at the police station. There is another remarkable thing; since this change I have found that numbers of the parties appear to have some trifle with which to proceed a little further than Newport to subsist upon for a day or so, which is different from what they used to have when they first came and had ready admission to the House of Refuge.

6778. What was the number of the Irish in Newport in the year 1849, when you first entered upon office, compared with what it is now?—In the year 1849, the number of applications was 11,007; I should say that those were single applications, and many of those are not parties arriving in Newport from Cork, but many of them have arrived in Cardiff, and after they have been a night or two in Cardiff they invariably make their way towards Newport, so that we are troubled in Newport not only with the arrival of the persons from Ireland, but likewise with the number arriving from Cardiff as well. In 1849, we had 11,007 single applications for relief; many of those were cases of sickness, and they had to be admitted to the hospital, which is a very expensive thing. The cost amounted to 467 *l.* 7 *s.* 5 ¼ *d.* in that year. In 1850 it varied very much; we had then 7,713, and the cost amounted to 410 *l.* 10 *s.* 10 ½ *d.* In 1851 it lessened again; the number was 4,992, amounting to 324 *l.* 4 *s.* 9 *d.* In 1852 the number increased, being 6,698, amounting to 317 *l.* 12 *s.* 10 *d.* The object of our committee was met, as it regarded the number in 1853, by the change, but not as it regarded the expense, because we were then saddled only with those who were not able to proceed, and we were obliged to keep them in the workhouse, where they had medical attendance, and everything which the medical men ordered for them. In 1853 the number was 3,299, and the expense 319 *l.* 2 *s.* 9 *d.*, whereas in 1852 the number was 6,698, and the expense only 317 *l.*; but while the number was 100 per cent. less in 1853, the expense of keeping that number was more than in 1852.

6779. How

6779. How do you account for that?—Simply because those who are in the greatest necessity and sickness, and who are a long time on the books, increase the amount very much more than those having merely casual relief by a night's lodging and bread, and who are able to go on. In 1853 we had one family of 13 individuals, a grandmother, and two or three of her grown up children, a son and wife, and I think six children, thrown upon us, and all in the hospital. The man dropped down in the street; everybody thought he was dying, and I had a cart and conveyed them to the hospital; they were in such a feeble and emaciated state that they were, some of them, I think, in the hospital three months, at an expense of about 3*s.* 6*d.* a week each.

6780. How long after their landing did they come?—In two days; I saw them the day before wandering about the town, and I said that I thought there would be some trouble with those parties, and the next day I found them in this wretched state.

6781. Mr. *G. A. Hamilton.*] I understand you to state that 6,000 persons were relieved at an expense of 300*l.*?—Yes, 317*l.*

6782. That would be 1*s.* apiece?—Yes; I have not averaged the amount per head.

6783. How do you account for the relief afforded in each particular case being so small?—This includes those who are detained in the hospital by sickness; many of them have nothing but a bit of bread.

6784. You mean that the relief given averaged upon the 6,000, 1*s.* a head?—Yes, if you average it in that way. I have simply taken the applications; some have had but a pennyworth of bread, and some have cost pounds.

6785. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the number for 1854?—I have no return of 1854. I have not been able to make up my accounts.

6786. *Chairman.*] Does it come down to 1853?—The returns of the number of removals come to January 1853, but these numbers of vagrants come up to Michaelmas 1853.

6787. Have you formed an opinion as to how far it would be practicable to do away with the law of removal of the Irish poor?—I have thought upon the matter, but there must be some very great alterations in England, I imagine, before it is done. I merely give an opinion.

6788. As a person experienced in the administration of the Poor-law, is it your opinion that the law of removal could be safely or properly repealed?—If we could depend upon only legitimate cases coming to England, there would be no difficulty in the matter.

6789. What do you mean by legitimate cases?—Where able-bodied men with families in Ireland believe that if they come over to England to obtain work they shall be able to get a better living.

6790. By legitimate cases you mean persons coming *bonâ fide* in search of work?—Yes; and who are able to get their living if they can get employment.

9791. Are you satisfied that there are a large class not falling within that description?—Almost the whole of those who come under my observation are of that class who cannot get their living.

6792. Then are you of opinion that with regard to the class which you have last spoken of, it is necessary to retain the power of removal?—I consider that it would be a very serious thing to do away with it, but still I have an opinion that there are now very hard cases of removal, and so have our Board of Guardians. I can remember three or four instances in which there are parties who could legally be removed; but the Board of Guardians, so far as it regards the parish guardians, will not allow them to be removed in consequence of the length of time that they have been here. I have now four old women who are receiving from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* a week each, who ought to be removed.

6793. I suppose you mean who might be removed according to law?—Yes, and who have been taken off by the Common Fund Committee. Our Board of Guardians have a Common Fund Committee, and they investigate the paupers every year, and every pauper who is removable the committee have taken off the common fund and placed upon the parish funds; that is, he is taken from the common fund, which would be contributed from the whole of the union, and is charged upon Newport if he lives there, or upon St. Woollos if he lives in St. Woollos. Our guardians for the borough tried very hard to keep those old women on, but the Common Fund Committee were inexorable; they would not allow them to be kept on, and the guardians have decided that they shall not be

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sent to Ireland; they are Bridget Collins, Elizabeth Burke, Honora Ragan and Margaret Donovan. It is simply for this reason; in some portions of our town one side of the street is in the parish, and the other side of the street in the borough, and they very unconsciously remove from one side of the street to the other without knowing that they thereby break the residence and become removable, and thus lose the benefits which they have obtained.

6793. If the law of removal is to be retained, do you conceive that you could make any improvement in it which should avoid hardships of that kind?—I think that if you were not to alter the time of non-removal, but to increase it to a union residence instead of a parish residence, it would obviate entirely any hardship in the case.

6794. Would you see any real substantial objection to making it a union residence instead of a parish residence?—Any amelioration whatever towards the Irish would of necessity increase the burthens of the English ratepayers in Monmouthshire.

6795. Taking all things together, would you think it objectionable that, whereas now the area of residence is required to be the parish, it should hereafter be the union?—No; I could not possibly object to a five years' residence in the union.

6796. I observe you say five years?—Yes; why I say five years particularly, is this: the Irish are most enduring people, and if they know that at the end of three years they shall be relieved, it is astonishing what they will submit to rather than make application for relief; I have noticed that. There are many old men and old women, who crawling about the town on a miserable existence, seem to think that after they have been here five years, they shall get relief. The shorter the time, the greater I consider the number of parties who would put themselves in the same position; that is my object in saying five years. I do not think there would be any serious difficulty arising from the alteration, although there would be some difficulty; I think it might be done.

6797. What alteration?—To increase the union residence for the benefit of the Irish.

6798. Could you safely take three years instead of five?—No; I think that would be a very injurious thing, because these people who are waiting for the end of the five years would be more numerous if they knew that they had only to wait three years instead of five.

6799. Do you then think, upon the whole, that the period of five years ought not to be shortened?—I think it would be a very injurious thing if the period of five years were shortened, if anything at all were done.

6800. Has your attention been called to the case of a person of the name of Mary Heas, referred to in Question 6194?—Yes; I have had a great deal of trouble about that case.

6801. Have you seen a copy of her deposition which has been put in?—Yes.

6802. What do you wish to say with regard to that case?—I should like to say something before I come to the copy of the deposition, because there was a correspondence between our Board of Guardians and the Poor Law Board upon the matter, and there was a statement made by Mary Heas when she was at Waterford. This statement was made by Mary Heas to the Board of Guardians, to Mr. Devereux, who corresponded with Mr. Meagher, the Member for Waterford, who, I believe, corresponded with yourself as President of the Poor Law Board, and after that we had a great deal of trouble in Newport with the case connected with this correspondence.

6803. In what year was that?—About the month of May this year.

6804. You observe that this is a deposition made by Mary Heas before a justice of the peace for the county of Cork on the 31st of May this year?—It is so. She was not removed until February, and the correspondence which took place in consequence of Mary Heas's case, was subsequently to her removal. I am not aware of the dates, because I have not a copy of the correspondence. The captain took her to Waterford, and soon after they endeavoured to make up a very great case, and they tried to charge me with cruelty in the matter, which I shall be able entirely to disprove.

6805. There has been a correspondence between you and the Poor Law Board?—Yes, in consequence of a correspondence with Mr. Meagher, the Member for Waterford. I had to reply to this, to answer the case.

6806. This was the same person who was afterwards at Cork?—This is the Mary

Mary Heas, and that is the magistrate's order (*producing the same*); I imagine that I have had another Mary Heas.

6807. I ask you as to the Mary Heas with regard to whom the deposition was put in the other day by the Honourable Member for Dungarvon; I sent you a copy of it?—Yes.

6808. What do you wish to say about that deposition before a justice of the peace for the county of Cork?—This is the same Mary Heas, and I have no doubt that this deposition relates to that order, and to the same Mary Heas.

6809. What do you wish to say about that case?—Believing it to be the same Mary Heas, I wish to say that very much of the statement in this deposition is a mass of falsehood. The Mary Heas who states in this deposition that she was born in Ross, states there that she was born in Skull.

6810. Do you know anything about the distance of Skull from Ross?—I was looking one day on the map subsequently to my hearing about this Mary Heas (you were kind enough to send me this copy of the deposition); I imagined from the scale that it appeared to be about 30 miles.

6811. Will you proceed with your statement upon that case?—She states here that she had lived over five years in Newport, and that she then went to Ireland; therefore her's was legally a case of removal, being a break of residence; that she afterwards came back in May 1851; consequently, on an application, if she were an able-bodied pauper, it would be a legal case of removal.

6812. You say that there are falsehoods in that statement?—Yes.

6813. Point them out?—She states that her husband left her about seven months ago, and went to America. This Mary Heas I heard of as being in a very destitute state, in a state of confinement, at the latter end of February 1853; I went to her, and found her lying, with an infant child about two days old, apparently in a great state of exhaustion; I had a medical man to attend her, and had every requisite given to her, which continued for some time, till she was removed to the hospital and taken proper care of by the nurse; she then stated to me that her husband had left her, but she did not say where he was; she states here that she "went to Newport with her husband, where they resided over five years, after which time they returned back to this country, and remained about nine months in the neighbourhood of Clonakilty; in May 1851 they went again to Newport, where they resided, and earned a comfortable livelihood; her husband left her about seven months ago."

6814. Mr. *Maguire.*] Read the remainder of that paragraph?—"Having gone to America, with the full intention of sending for herself and her two children as soon as possible. Since her husband left she has supported herself and her infant child independently by her own earnings, having constant employment as a washerwoman in different families, until about two months since, when, in the apprehension of fever, she applied to Mr. Salter, the relieving officer, for admission to the hospital at Stow Hill, in connexion with the Newport Union. He gave her the ticket of admission, at the same observing that he would send her to Ireland as soon as ever she was recovered; she was in hospital about 17 days." Now this was the second application when I made these observations to her, because it was either at the end of February, or the beginning of March, that I found her in this wretched state, and she was in the hospital till the latter end of August, or the beginning of September, with her child, entirely at the expense of the union. She then said that she should go out. We let her go out, and on the second application she made the same observation which she is now making here, which you, gentlemen, have reason to believe was the first application that she had made. In consequence of her application a second time, seeing that she was very emaciated, I took her into the hospital, and I kept her there for some few weeks till she evidently got better. After I thought of removing her I kept her four or five days, because the weather was very sharp; I would not allow her to go; I had the matron of the House of Refuge with me the day before she went away, to see what she thought of her state. The nurse pointed out Mary Heas, with several others I had orders of removal for, but it being cold weather, and they appearing weak, I directed the nurse to keep them in the hospital a little longer before they were removed; but this Mary Heas was as strong as ever I removed a woman in my life; she was pointed out by the nurse. She afterwards states in the deposition that she wished to have her dismissal from the hospital, but was refused. We never refuse their leaving if we consider that they are in a state fit to leave the place, because we

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look at the hospital as a place more for the vagrants than anybody else, and wish them, if they think proper, to go to the place whence they came, or where they like. I never object to any of them leaving the place at their own wish. She states that she had another child. When I read this deposition it was the first time I ever heard that she had another child; had I known that she had another child I should have been more particular in endeavouring to know where it was, because the child evidently would have become a burthen to the parish.

6815. *Chairman.*] Have you any other observation to make with respect to that case?—She says here that she had friends in Newport; she said that she had nobody whatever to assist her in Newport at all. In this deposition she says that the next day, that is, the day after she obtained that order of removal, she was conveyed by a constable to the vessel. This is entirely false; I have never employed a constable or a policeman at any time in my office, in taking them down to the packet.

6816. Who takes them to the packet?—A man named Tom Welsh; they call him there the Irish consul, as a nickname; he is acquainted with all the captains there, and he assists me in taking these people to the vessel, to take charge of them and carry their food, and everything requisite for them.

6817. Have you any further observation to make with respect to the case?—I will make this observation, that she was at the House of Refuge one night previously to her being removed into the vessel. We send them from the hospital to the House of Refuge, because Mrs. Huxtable, the matron of the House of Refuge, furnishes them with the food which it is requisite to give them when they go on board.

6818. Mr. *Maguire.*] You say that the person who is employed in the removal is called the Irish consul, as a nickname?—Yes.

6819. Is not this person, for the purposes of removal, as much a constable as any constable in Newport?—Not at all; he has nothing to do with it.

6820. Is he not entrusted with their removal?—Not at all; I am the only person entrusted with their removal.

6821. Is not any person charged by you for the purpose of removing them, or carrying out your instructions, a constable by the Act?—No, I consider that he has nothing to do with it; I am responsible for everything; he is known not to be a constable.

6822. Suppose those parties broke away from him, would they not be amenable to the law?—I question whether they would.

6823. Do you not know that to all intents and purposes, any person delegated by you to take charge of those people is a constable according to the meaning of the Act; that he is entrusted with all the powers of a constable for the purposes of removal?—No; I am not aware of that.

6824. *Chairman.*] Do you know that this is the provision in the Act 8th & 9th Victoria, chapter 117, section 3: "That every person to whom any warrant made in pursuance of this Act shall be delivered for the purpose of being carried into execution, shall detain and hold in safe custody every poor person mentioned therein until such poor person have arrived at the place to which she is ordered to be removed, and shall for that purpose in every county and place through which he may pass, in the due execution of such warrant, have and exercise the powers with which a constable is by law invested, notwithstanding such person may not otherwise be empowered to act as a constable for such county or place;" are you aware of that?—I am aware of that; but that is speaking of the conductor, I imagine.

6825. Mr. *Maguire.*] If a poor person happened to confound this party, Welsh, with a constable, would you consider that a lie, or such a statement as would throw discredit on the general account of the transaction?—Yes; after the person having lived, as she states, five years in Newport.

6826. After what you have heard read by the Chairman of the Committee, do you venture to state that the assertion of that woman, with respect to this man, was a lie?—I believe it to be false entirely.

6827. After having heard that?—Yes.

6828. When this woman applied the second time, she was very emaciated?—Yes, in appearance.

6829. And she was evidently driven in there by physical distress?—Yes.

6830. Then her statement so far is true, that she was driven in by distress?—Yes, by sickness and necessity.

6831. That

6831. That part is true?—Yes.

6832. The statement also is true, that her husband went to America?—I cannot tell.

6833. You do not know it to be a lie?—I do not.

6834. Have you any means of knowing how that woman was occupied from the time that her husband left until the time she applied for parish relief?—From the inquiry which I made at first respecting her, I found that she had been about the country, and went to look after her husband, and that she found her husband was at Pontypool; and that she had seen her husband subsequently to leaving the hospital the first time, and previously to her going into it the second time.

6835. Did you make any inquiry to disprove her statement that she had washed for persons in Newport, and was able to support herself by her industry?—Yes.

6836. Did you find that all false?—Yes; I could not find that she had been employed anywhere; she had been about the country,

6837. Did you make inquiries in Newport where she had, as she says, washed in different families?—I was not aware that she had said that she had washed for different families till I received this copy of the deposition, which was last week.

6838. Did you make any inquiry on that head?—Previously to the correspondence, which occurred some months ago, I made inquiry; that was the cause of it.

6839. You made no inquiry on that head?—No.

6840. Therefore you cannot say that that was a mass of lies?—No.

6841. She states that she asked for her discharge, and that it was refused?—Yes.

6842. Can you take upon yourself to state positively that she did not ask for her discharge?—I know she did not ask for it.

6843. Do you know it of your own knowledge?—Certainly; because I should be the only one that she would ask.

6844. And you say positively she did not ask for her discharge?—She never asked me for her discharge, or I should have told the nurse that moment to let her go.

6845. Is it possible that she might have asked any other person for her discharge?—Very probable.

6846. Then if she did ask any other person for her discharge, and it is stated in this declaration, it would not be a mass of lies so far?—No.

6847. You say that she was as strong as any woman ever was?—The matron of the hospital and myself saw her, and we considered her a very strong woman.

6848. Therefore, if she were an industrious woman, was she not more capable of maintaining herself then?—Certainly.

6849. And, therefore, that she did ask for her discharge at that time, would be rather probable?—If she had asked, she would have had it.

6850. You say you do not know that she might not have asked somebody else for her discharge?—Who could she have asked? She could have asked nobody with any authority there.

6851. She distinctly stated that she did ask, and you do not know but that she might have asked some other person; she did not ask you?—No.

6852. And you positively did not refuse it?—I did not refuse it. I have never refused it.

6853. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Did those numbers of removals which you stated include some of that class who appear to have come over here to pick up some money during the harvests and to go back to Ireland?—Not one. I never would remove any of them at all; I have invariably resisted them.

6854. That is to say, you did not conscientiously remove any one who you thought had means of going over?—No; only in consequence of some decrepitude or other, they having come over from Ireland a very little time previously, or widows and children who were removable according to law.

6855. Did you ever find out what became of that class of people who came to you asking to be removed?—No. I have heard sometimes that some of them have gone on board some of the colliers, going off with the captains.

6856. You have not heard of their making application elsewhere to be removed?—No.

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6857. Does it appear to you that this system of removal after all is a very effectual check to the grievance which you complain of, namely, persons coming over, or being sent over, from Ireland, who become chargeable upon the rate-payers of Newport?—I think it effectual; it is an effectual check upon repeated applications. I do not mean upon coming over.

6858. It does not appear to you that it is a check upon their coming?—Not at all, because they are wandering about.

6859. Some of those are people who are able to work, are they not?—I have seen very few.

6860. How do those who are not able to work make out their living?—They go about begging; they are beggars; sometimes I see them a year or 15 months afterwards coming again into the town.

6861. Is the Vagrant Act very strictly enforced in your union?—I am afraid not; they are much more particular now than they were.

6862. It appears that the main effect of the law of removal is to prevent persons from asking for legal relief, and to make them seek relief by beggary?—Yes.

6863. It does not prevent them coming from Ireland?—I do not see that it prevents them coming from Ireland at all.

6864. Does it appear to you that that is a very satisfactory sort of law which has the effect of creating a class of beggars, and which debars people from legal relief which is provided for them, and makes them seek it in an irregular and scarcely legal way?—Under the circumstances, I do not know how it could be obviated at all. I often think but for this law what difficulty and expense and trouble there would be in Newport. If it could be arranged in any other way to prevent it, it would be desirable.

6865. Have you observed that Irish people who are able to earn a living voluntarily remain in the workhouse?—No.

6866. Do you think that any who were not really in great distress would remain as a charge in the workhouse if relief was given in the workhouse?—No, I think not.

6867. What amount of workhouse accommodation have you at Newport?—For 196.

6868. Is it generally full?—It is nearly full now; it has been for the last week or two.

6869. Have you many Irish in the workhouse?—No; we have several Irish deserted children in the workhouse.

6870. Can you say about what number of Irish children there are in the workhouse?—No; as I have nothing to do with the regulations of the workhouse, I do not exactly know the number of Irish children, but I know that there are several Irish children there.

6871. Is that workhouse for the entire union?—Yes.

6872. How many parishes are there?—Forty-two.

6873. And about what may be the population of the union?—I do not know as to the union, the population of Newport and St. Woollos is 20,000; whether the population of the union would be about 100 per cent. upon that I am not quite certain.

6874. Somewhere over 30,000?—Yes; I should not like to give an opinion upon that.

6875. Do you think that if the law of removal were abolished a great number of the Irish would come to be relieved?—I have every reason to believe it.

6876. Do you think that they would ask for relief from indolence and a desire not to labour, or that they are the sort of people who really cannot labour and cannot get a living?—It strikes me that the Irish seem to think that relief is almost a matter of necessity of their life, for upon the least circumstance they ask for relief.

6877. At the same time there are a great many who do not ask for relief?—Many really removable parties, such as widows and children; we have had many widows and children who have been receiving relief for the 12 months, and when the 12 months have expired I have told them, "You will have no more money; you will have to be taken before the Board of Guardians, and removed to Ireland, or have your pay stopped;" and they have preferred having their pay stopped to being removed to Ireland. I know many cases now; there are some of the poor creatures at the present moment who get nothing.

6878. Your

6878. Your observation seems to have led you to think that there are a certain class of poor people who require a strong stimulus to induce them to support themselves?—Yes.

6879. You think that that stimulus is now afforded by the threat of removal?—Yes.

6880. Do you think that the alternative of relief in the workhouse would be effective for that class, and that as long as they could support themselves out of it, they would not receive that relief?—It would be a very great check, and it would be a matter of necessity, I have no doubt; you must stop out-relief to such parties, and the children must be removed from their parents; there must be a district school for children.

6881. I suppose the children of those who go about begging are brought up in a very wretched state?—Yes, they have neither shoe nor stocking.

6882. They are probably destined to a life of pauperism, if not crime?—Yes; I call it perpetuating pauperism.

6883. If it were possible, without unduly burthening the community, to provide them with education in a district school, it would be a great benefit to the country?—It would be a great blessing, no doubt.

6884. The law of removal does not prevent those children from growing up in the state in which you describe them?—No; but as to the school, there must be a very different system from that practised at the present time in the unions, of apprenticing children out, because the boys are apprenticed to nothing but tailors and shoemakers, and the agricultural portions of the union derive no benefit whatever from any of those boys, and they often become paupers when they are men.

6885. *Chairman.*] Are they the guardians who bind them to those tailors and shoemakers?—Yes, under the order of the Poor Law Board.

6886. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Those are the children who are relieved in the workhouse?—They are.

6887. When was the workhouse at Newport built; is it an old workhouse, or one built since the Poor Law Amendment Act?—It was built in 1836, two years after the operation of the new Poor Law Act.

6888. What are the rates for the parish of Newport?—One shilling and sixpence, and one shilling upon the average, making about 2 *s.* 6 *d.* for the year; I think it has been 3 *s.* the last year or two.

6889. Is it much less in the rural parishes?—I cannot give an answer directly to that question; the guardians of the rural parishes complain very much because of the expenses of the common fund, they say it increases their rate; it is less, because I know that in some of the parishes the rate is only 1 *s.*

6890. The rate in the year?—No, the two rates, that is, every half year, so that the rate is 2 *s.* in the year in many of the parishes.

6891. Did the statement which you made of the large number of applications include all applicants for relief of every description; there were 6,000, I think, in the last year?—You will see the Irish in these columns (*handing a Paper to the Honourable Member*).

6892. At the end of the year 1852 I see there were as many as 6,698 Irish, and 4,528 English?—Yes.

6893. Does this include applications of every description?—No; merely the vagrant applications, and those who subsequently became the objects of hospital admission.

6894. It does not include those who received weekly allowances?—No, not at all.

6895. Mr. *E. A. Hamilton.*] Have you a considerable resident Irish population in your union?—The other day the priest and myself were estimating and calculating it; he made a very good calculation about it, that there are from 3,500 to 3,800 at present in Newport.

6896. Whom you may consider as permanently established Irish families?—I think that now, since the regulations of the sanitary board have been put into effect, you may consider the great majority of them more established residents than vagrants.

6897. Do you observe the same habits of improvidence which you speak of among the settled Irish population?—Among all of them; I can find no case of providence.

6898. You state that the number of Irish who have deposits in the savings

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banks is very small; are you aware that savings banks in Ireland have been very extensively established, and very readily taken up by the population?—Yes; and I felt astonishment at it, knowing that there were so few depositors in our own bank. I have been astonished to see the accounts of deposits in the Irish savings banks.

6899. Can you at all account for the difference between the Irish in Ireland and the Irish in Newport with respect to their deposits in the savings bank?—No, I have never been able to ascertain it.

6900. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Is it not the case that the working class in South Wales invest their savings very much in building societies, and also subscribe to friendly societies, and that a comparatively small portion of the savings of the working class find their way into the savings bank?—Knowing many of the operations of the building society in our district, it is a singular thing that there are not any Irish members in the Building Society or the Freehold Land Society there that I know of; there are two or three Irish clubs which are now stopped, and some of the old Irish inhabitants of Newport are members of those benefit societies; but unfortunately they are now becoming sick and infirm, and get no benefit from these clubs; consequently those are the irremovable parties who are at the present time on the common fund of the union.

6901. Mr. *Maguire.*] When a person applies for medical relief and goes into the hospital of the workhouse in order to obtain it, is it lawful to send that person over to Ireland?—Not till he is quite well; certainly not while he is ill.

6902. Suppose he is quite well; suppose a person is destitute, through sickness, and applies for medical relief, and goes into the hospital of the workhouse, is it lawful to send that person to Ireland when recovered?—No.

6903. Was not that the case with Mary Heas?—No.

6904. Did you not say that she went into the hospital in an emaciated condition?—Yes.

6905. She went in sick?—Yes.

6906. Did you not send her over when she was well?—Yes.

6907. Was that legal?—Yes, I consider so; she must have been taken off the common fund of the union, which would administer relief to her in her temporary ailment; this temporary ailment having ceased there was no other mode of administering relief to her but from the parish in which she was residing.

6908. Did she not go in as a sick person?—Yes, and she came out as a well person.

6909. Was not it illegal to send a person who merely applied for medical relief to Ireland?—Certainly.

6910. Is not that what you did?—No, she was well when we sent her.

6911. Was not she sick when she went in?—Yes.

6912. Mr. *Dunlop.*] The chargeability was after she came out?—Yes.

6913. Mr. *Maguire.*] I think you said that you were never able to ascertain how the expenses were defrayed of sending paupers from Ireland to England?—Not the general way in which the means were derived at all.

6914. Have you any single authenticated case of any Board of Guardians in Ireland having defrayed such expense?—No; I cannot think that the Board of Guardians can do it, because of the strict observations which would be made by the auditors upon the expense; I never suspected such a thing.

6915. Speaking of savings banks in Ireland, would you be surprised to know that the present amount of deposits in the Cork Savings Bank is 300,000 *l.*?—I am aware of it from the statistics, which have astonished me.

6916. I believe you are aware that it was nearly 500,000 *l.* at one time?—Yes.

6917. There are very large deposits made in Kerry, which is one of the poorest counties in Ireland?—Yes; I have returns of all the savings banks, and I have been astonished at it, considering the apparent improvidence of the people.

6918. What do you think their improvidence arises from; is it from drunkenness?—I am afraid so.

6919. I believe that drunkenness is a vice unfortunately not confined to the Irish?—It is not confined to them, but they seem to revel in it; it is very lamentable to see the hordes of Irish on the Saturday night, and to know that on the Monday or the Tuesday they will come to the parish for relief with nothing in their pockets.

6920. Of your own knowledge, can you say that the Irish are more drunken than

than the Welsh?—They manifest it more if they are not; they are apparently.

6921. You cannot say that the Irish drink more or that the Welsh drink less?—No; I am afraid that the Welsh drink more, and that the Irish show it sooner.

6922. That is from natural temperament?—I think so; I am very much grieved to see it in our locality, I can assure you; it is a lamentable thing.

Lunæ, 17° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Sir John Young.
Mr. Liddell.	Sir Robert Ferguson.
Mr. Dunlop.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Ingham.

THE RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. *William Chambers*, called in; and Examined.

6923. *Chairman.*] YOU hold an office under the West London Board of Guardians, do you not?—I do.

6924. What is that office?—Assistant Clerk to the Board of Guardians.

6925. How long have you held that office?—About five years.

6926. The West London Board is the Board of Guardians of the West London Union?—It is.

6927. And that is a union constituted, I believe, under the Poor Law Amendment Act?—Precisely so.

6928. How many parishes are there in your union?—Seven.

6929. Will you give us their names?—St. Andrew, Holborn, Bartholomew the Great, Bartholomew the Less, the Precinct of Bridewell, St. Bride, St. Dunstan, and St. Sepulchre.

6930. Have you turned your attention to the subject of the operation of the present law with regard to the removal of Irish paupers from England?—I have; but I may state that the removal of the Irish poor is not within my province.

6931. Within whose province is it, in your union?—It lies with the relieving officer and an officer who is termed a messenger.

6932. Can you give the Committee any information as to the operation of the existing law with respect to the removal of Irish paupers?—I am not enabled to say that the law as it exists has any injurious operation, so far as regards the West London Union.

6933. It has been suggested that it would be practicable to do away entirely with the power of removing Irish paupers from this country; have you formed an opinion upon that point?—I think, so far as my experience goes, that such a measure would lead to disastrous results.

6934. Will you state the grounds upon which you arrive at that conclusion?—The ground is this, that I have always discovered a great disinclination on the part of the Irish to be sent back to Ireland; I may state also that some six or seven years ago we had 112 able-bodied Irish persons employed at a yard which is termed the labour yard; that number had increased gradually. The Committee of Guardians at that time felt that such a state of things should not continue in the union, which is a small union; and it was suggested, I think by myself, that they should undergo examination, and that if there was found just reason, they should be removed to Ireland. That course was adopted; they were had up to the Board of Guardians in small numbers; they were subjected to an examination, and they were told that they would be admitted into the workhouse, and

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removed to the place of their nativity. I believe in no single instance was such a person removed to Ireland; the fact was, that the whole number disappeared, and the union was relieved of the burthen of their relief.

6935. Mr. *Maguire.*] In what year was that?—I think it was about six or seven years ago.

6936. *Chairman.*] Have you lately had any considerable number of Irish applicants for relief in your union?—We have a considerable number, certainly; but it is not the practice of the Board of Guardians to remove indiscriminately the poor to Ireland.

6937. What is the practice of your Board of Guardians in that respect?—The practice of the Board of Guardians of the West London Union is this: If they find an Irish family industrious and honest, they relieve him; if they find a person disposed to be idle, they take the necessary means to have him removed to Ireland.

6938. Do you mean that they institute the best inquiries in their power for the purpose of satisfying themselves upon that point?—Yes.

6939. Are those inquiries made through your relieving officers?—They are.

6940. And in a considerable number of cases you say they do not remove?—We are relieving at this time a considerable number of persons who have resided in the union for a period, who are industrious, and get their living partially by work.

6941. Are those persons whom you could legally remove?—I have no doubt that some of them are persons who could be legally removed to Ireland.

6942. Are those persons who have resided less than five years in this country?—Yes.

6943. What is the ground upon which you abstain from removing those whom could remove if you thought fit?—Because they create a sympathy on the part of the Board of Guardians from the fact of their having been residents for a certain period, and from the fact of its being known to the Board of Guardians, through the relieving officer, that they are industrious persons, and work when they can get it

6944. In a case where the guardians think that removal should take place, will you describe what the process is; I suppose they first resolve that an application shall be made to the magistrates for an order?—The process is this. I may state that the removal of the Irish is confined chiefly to those persons who come in suddenly to the union, who are strangers to it; who are casually chargeable there; who have no home or place of refuge at all. The process with regard to such persons is this: they are admitted into the workhouse by an order from the relieving officer, and a direction is given by him that they shall be removed. It is the duty of the officer to whom I just now referred, namely, the messenger, to take such persons before the magistrates, before the aldermen sitting at Guildhall, where the necessary order for their removal is obtained.

6945. An alderman at Guildhall, I believe, has the power of two magistrates, has he not?—No; we take them before the aldermen, who are magistrates, sitting in a petty session.

6946. Before two aldermen?—Before two aldermen.

6947. Is the proceeding before those aldermen a proceeding in open court?—It is.

6948. Is that the uniform course adopted by you?—Invariably.

6949. Of having those inquiries in open court?—In open court.

6950. Suppose an order is made, what is the next step which is taken?—The order is made upon the deposition of the pauper; that order is made in duplicate, one part of it is delivered to the pass-master and the other is delivered to the Board of Guardians.

6951. Who is the pass-master of the union?—Henry Gill; he is an officer of the Corporation of London.

6952. Have you any particular directions that are given to Henry Gill, under which he acts, from your Board of Guardians?—No; the directions are given from the court of quarter sessions to him, I believe, or from the Corporation itself.

6953. From the magistrates, probably?—Probably from the magistrates.

6954. Do they apply to your union merely, or do they apply to several others?—They apply to the three City unions.

6955. That is, the City of London Union, the East London Union, and the West London Union?—Just so.

6956. These

6956. These, you say, are the regulations made by justices and applicable to all the three London unions?—I believe so.

6957. Can you hand in a copy of them?—I have a duplicate of the order.

6958. Probably there is nothing peculiar about the form of order; it follows the statute?—It apparently sets forth the charge for removing paupers to Ireland and Scotland, and some regulations which appear to have been made by one of the courts of quarter sessions of the City of London, with respect to their removal; it is recent.

6959. What is the date of it?—It is dated July the 8th, of the present year.

6960. Not the regulations?—The 20th of January, in the 9th year of the reign of the present Queen, 1846; they were approved, I see, by Sir James Graham, in January 1846.

6961. And have they continued to be used without variation since that time?—I know of no alteration; it is not within my knowledge, certainly.

[*The Witness delivered in the same, which are as follow:*]

London: At the General Quarter Session of the Peace of our Lady the Queen, holden for the City of London by adjournment at the Guildhall within the said City, on Tuesday, the 20th day of January, in the ninth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lady Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, before Sir Claudius Stephen Hunter, Bart., Samuel Wilson, Esq., Thomas Wood, Esq., William Hunter, Esq., Thomas Challis, Esq., Aldermen of the said City, and others their fellows, Justices of our said Lady the Queen, assigned to keep the peace of our said Lady the Queen within the said City; and also to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdeeds, committed within the said City.

Regulations made for carrying into execution an Act made and passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the eighth and ninth years of the reign of Queen Victoria, intituled, "An Act to Amend the Laws relating to the Removal of Poor Persons born in Scotland, Ireland, the Islands of Man, Scilly, Jersey or Guernsey, and chargeable in England:"

1st. That paupers ordered to be removed to Scotland or Ireland be conveyed by steamboats or sailing vessels to the ports mentioned in the orders of removal. That paupers ordered to be removed to the Isle of Man be conveyed by railway to Liverpool, and thence shipped to that island; that paupers ordered to be removed to the Isles of Scilly be conveyed by steamboats or sailing vessel to Falmouth, and thence shipped to those islands; and that paupers ordered to be removed to the islands of Jersey or Guernsey be conveyed by railway to Southampton, and thence shipped to those islands.

2d. That two copies of every order for the removal of paupers to Scotland, Ireland, Man, Scilly, Jersey or Guernsey, with the examination annexed, be signed by the magistrates making the same; one of such copies to be delivered to the captain of the vessel in which the paupers shall be conveyed, and the other to be delivered to the person appointed to see such paupers put on board the vessels in which they shall be conveyed, and on the back of which last-mentioned order such person shall take a receipt for the paupers from the captain, or other person in charge of the vessel. That every order of removal to Scotland or Ireland shall state the port to which the pauper is to be sent, such port being the nearest to the place where the pauper was born or had resided, and if the port named is not the nearest to the spot where the pauper was born or had resided, the pauper's consent to be removed to the port mentioned in the order of removal.

3d. That the unions or parishes from which any such paupers are passed, do pay to the constables conveying such paupers the amount of the passage-money according to the following scale: that is to say, the sum of 1 *l.* 7 *s.* for every Scotch pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 15 *s.* 6 *d.* for every Scotch pauper, under ten years of age, ordered to be removed to Edinburgh, Dundee, or Aberdeen; the sum of 1 *l.* 11 *s.* for every Scotch pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 18 *s.* 6 *d.* for every Scotch pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to Glasgow or Greenock; the sum of 1 *l.* 13 *s.* for every Scotch pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 18 *s.* 6 *d.* for every Scotch pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to Ayr; the sum of 2 *l.* 1 *s.* for every Scotch pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 1 *l.* 2 *s.* 6 *d.* for every Scotch pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to Dumfries; and the sum of 2 *l.* 4 *s.* for every Scotch pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 1 *l.* 4 *s.* for every Scotch pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to Inverness or Oban. The sum of 2 *l.* for every Irish pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 1 *l.* 2 *s.* for every Irish pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to Cork; the sum of 2 *l.* 2 *s.* for every Irish pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 1 *l.* 4 *s.* for every Irish pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to Dublin; the sum of 2 *l.* 14 *s.* for every Irish pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 1 *l.* 12 *s.* for every Irish pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to Limerick; the sum of 3 *l.* 14 *s.* for every Irish pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 2 *l.* 4 *s.* for every Irish pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to Belfast, Derry, Dundalk, Waterford, or

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Wexford. The sum of 4 *l.* 4 *s.* for every pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 2 *l.* 6 *s.* for every pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to the Isle of Man; the sum of 4 *l.* for every pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 2 *l.* 10 *s.* for every pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to the Isles of Scilly; and the sum of 3 *l.* for every pauper of the age of 10 years and upwards, and the sum of 1 *l.* 15 *s.* for every pauper under 10 years of age, ordered to be removed to either of the Islands of Jersey or Guernsey.

4th. That constables do deliver Irish and Scotch paupers, and paupers belonging to the Islands of Man, Scilly, Jersey, or Guernsey, together with their passage money, unto Henry Gill, at his office, No. 9, Swan-lane, Upper Thames-street, who is appointed, during the pleasure of this Court, to receive all such paupers from the several unions and parishes within the said City, and to see them safely and properly put on board the vessels in which they are to be removed, taking such a receipt for such paupers as hereinbefore is mentioned.

5th. That all captains of vessels in which paupers may be conveyed, and persons having charge of such paupers, shall have authority to detain and hold in safe custody such paupers until their arrival at the place of their destination, pursuant to the provisions of the said statute.

6th. That if any circumstances shall arise to prevent or interrupt the fulfilment of the arrangement made for the removal of the paupers, they be conveyed according to the directions of the magistrates making the order of removal, until other arrangements shall be made for that purpose.

By the Court,
John Clark, Clerk of the Peace.

I approve of the foregoing regulations.

Whitehall, 24 January 1846. *Jas. Graham.*

Note.—By section 3 of the Act, it is enacted, "That every person to whom any warrant made in pursuance of this Act shall be delivered for the purpose of being carried into execution, shall detain and hold in safe custody every poor person mentioned therein until such poor person have arrived at the place to which he is ordered to be removed, and for that purpose shall, in every county and place through which he may pass in the due execution of such warrant, have and exercise the powers with which a constable is by law entrusted, notwithstanding such person may not otherwise be empowered to act as a constable for such county or place."

6962. Have you a large number of that class of Irish whom you described just now as casual poor coming to you, of whom you know nothing?—No, not a great number at present. I have prepared a return of the number that we have removed during the last six years; it is a similar return to that which we have sent in obedience to a resolution of the House of Commons.

6963. Will you state, beginning with the first of those years, what the number then was?—In the year 1849 we removed 6.

6964. Are these persons or cases?—Persons. In the year 1850, 28; in the year 1851, 67; in the year 1852, 50; in the year 1853, 31.

6965. Have you any account of this year as far as it has gone?—For the year ending Lady-day 1854, 51.

6966. Then the first of those represents the year ending Lady-day 1849, and the last the year ending Lady-day 1854?—Yes.

6967. The numbers seem to have been somewhat upon the increase lately?——They do.

6968. Can you account for that in any way?—I am not enabled to give any reason for it.

6969. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you the number of applications from casual poor?—I have not.

6970. Are they falling off?—We do not complain generally; we are not troubled.

6971. *Chairman.*] Have you any further table which you wish to lay before the Committee?—No.

6972. You were proceeding to state the reasons which led you to the conclusion that it would not be advisable to do away with the power of removal altogether; have you any reason to add to that which you have already stated?—I think it would induce habits of wandering; I think that if that power were annihilated there would be a disposition on the part of the Irish poor to seek relief more abundantly in London than they do at present.

6973. Have you any means of judging how far they prefer, or otherwise, the system

system of relief in this country to that which they have in Ireland?—I have repeatedly heard them say, and it is a common thing in the board-room, if an Irish person is directed to come into the workhouse for the purpose of being removed, "I will not be removed;" and the consequence is, that they cease to be chargeable and go away.

6974. Have you heard any reasons assigned by them for their strong dislike to be removed?—Certainly not.

6975. You have no reason to judge from anything which you have heard them say, whether they prefer or otherwise the system of relief administered in this country to that administered in their own country?—I have not heard them assign any reason, certainly. I can only infer that the system of relief is different and more satisfactory to them in England than in Ireland.

6976. Have you any further reason to add upon this point as to the inexpediency of doing away with the present law of removal?—No.

6977. You are aware that at present an Irishman, like an Englishman, becomes irremovable after five years' industrial residence?—Yes.

6978. And you give the Irish the benefit of that provision, I presume; we have heard of some parishes where that is not done; you have always construed it as including the Irish?—Recently we have; there has been a decision, I think, to this effect, that the removal of Irish poor comes within the operation of that Act of Parliament.

6979. I hope that you are uniformly acting upon that now?—It is so, I believe, as far as my own belief goes.

6980. It has been suggested, that if you could not do away with the law of removal itself, it might be made to operate somewhat less harshly with reference to this subject of irremovability, and that a less period than five years might be safely taken for that purpose; have you formed an opinion on that subject as to how far four years, or three years, or two years, or one year, would answer the same purpose?—I cannot help thinking that five years is a very reasonable limit. I see no reason why it should be reduced; a person in that period becomes known, and his position is understood.

6981. You do not think that it could be safely abridged?—I see no reason for it.

6982. What do you think of a suggestion which has been made here, that you might alter the law in this respect; that whereas now five years in the same parish are required, five years in the same union should hereafter have the same effect?—I think that that is a very humane view to take of it.

6983. Is there any reasonable objection to it?—Not any, that I see.

6984. I dare say you have seen instances yourself where a pauper has inadvertently gone, after living 5 or 10 years in, say St. Bride's, which is one of your parishes, into St. Dunstan's, which is another, not knowing anything of the boundaries, and there has been an end of the irremovability?—Yes; I think it exceedingly harsh if an Irishman or an Englishman has been residing, say in the parish of St. Bride, without receiving relief, and he accidentally is obliged to go into an adjoining parish, that the removability should attach. I think it an exceedingly harsh provision, and one which ought to be corrected.

6985. Does it occur to you that any alteration might be made with advantage in the present law of removal itself?—I am assuming it to be retained for the present; I mean in the manner in which it is now carried out; you are aware that it is regulated by the 8 & 9 Vict., chap. 117, and you have seen the working of that Act. In your opinion, is that Act capable of improvement in any respect?—I think it is, very materially.

6986. We shall be glad to have any suggestions which you can make for that purpose?—I think, with regard to that Act, it may be very materially improved in this way; it may be improved by some provision being made for having the pauper conveyed, under proper authority, to the place of his nativity.

6987. What would you suggest upon that point?—I am hardly prepared to make a suggestion, because I believe it is a matter which may be attended with difficulty; still, I think it is a very inhuman course to be allowed to exist, that a pauper and a large family, for example, should be put on shore, and then left to find his way to the place of his home in the best way that he can, and without means.

6988. You think, in that point at all events, the law ought to be altered?—I think that, as far as regards that, it should be on the same footing as the law is

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with regard to English poor; an English poor person has the protection of an authorised officer from the period of his exit from the workhouse to his ultimate destination, and I think that the Irish should have the same advantage.

6989. The English pauper, I believe, is taken under the authority of some responsible officer to the workhouse of the union to which he is to be removed?—Or to an overseer.

6990. He is taken by an accredited officer, and delivered to an accredited officer?—Just so; and with this addition, that the officer to whom the order is directed is required to maintain that person, and to provide for him; but there is no such thing with regard to the Irish.

6991. So that the English pauper is never lost sight of by one officer or the other?—He is never lost sight of.

6992. He is in course of removal from one place where they relieve him to another which is bound to relieve him?—Until he arrives at his ultimate destination.

6993. Is there any other point upon which you have to observe?—There is no other occurring at present to me.

6994. Has your attention been drawn to the case of Elizabeth Keefe, which has been mentioned in the evidence here, No. 1045?—Personally I know nothing of it; the correspondence passed through my hands. I may state that the relieving officer of the union, by my direction, is here, if the Committee wish to examine him; he is, I believe, personally acquainted with that case, and will give any information which the Committee require upon it.

6995. Is there any other suggestion which you have to make with respect to this law, or any further information which you are desirous of laying before the Committee with regard to it?—I would mention this, that it is stated to us that it occasionally happens that persons are sent back again by some authority in Ireland. I am not prepared to state whether that is true or not, but that is the statement made to us.

6996. From whom have you heard those statements?—From the paupers themselves.

6997. What have you heard the paupers say upon that subject?—I will read a case which occurred recently in the person of Stephen Costello, who was removed to Ireland.

6998. When?—I think in the beginning of the present year. I should state that he was removed upon his own petition to the Board of Guardians, which I hold in my hand.

6999. Just read his petition?—"To the Board of Guardians of the West London Union. The petition of Stephen Costello humbly showeth, that your petitioner has been unable to obtain his living of late years through illness and the want of employment, and is anxious to be of no further burthen to the Board of Guardians, if they will assist him to reach his native place in Castlerea, county of Roscommon, Ireland. Your petitioner begs to state that on being passed to Dublin he has 120 miles to reach his native home, but through illness is incapable of travelling on foot; the railway there would cost 10 *s.*, and he has in pledge a pair of trowsers and waistcoat for 6 *s.*, which he would require for the journey. Your petitioner, therefore, humbly throws himself on the merciful consideration of the Board to grant him one sovereign, for the purpose abovenamed; and solemnly declares, on their acceding, he will never trouble them again or return to this country." He was given the 20 *s.*, and he was removed; he is now back again.

7000. He was removed at the expense of your union?—Just so.

7001. When did he come back?—He returned, I think, about three weeks ago. The Board felt strongly upon the subject, and they directed him to be taken before the sitting alderman at Guildhall; he was taken and was committed to prison as a vagrant for a month; he is in gaol now.

7002. Did he give any account of how he came to return?—He was examined by myself in the board-room; I will read his statement. He says, "The mayor of Castlerea passed me back; he said I had no claim there. He gave me nothing; they paid my passage to Dublin; they paid 10 *s.* 6 *d.* When I got to Dublin I made an application to the South Dublin Union; I was never in the workhouse there; they paid my passage to London. I don't know who paid; the relieving officer of the union gave me the ticket for my passage; the relieving officer gave me 1 *s.*, which he said was out of his own pocket; he also gave me four loaves of

of bread. I came to London by the 'Ondine.'" He signed his mark. This has formed the substance of correspondence with the Poor Law Board.

7003. Is there a correspondence going on now about it?—Not now. It arose in this way; when he got to Dublin it appears that his necessities became urgent, and he got into the workhouse of the South Dublin Union. A deposition was taken there with reference to his removal from London, and it was forwarded to the Poor Law Board, who sent us on a copy and required to have some information about it. He states, as you observe in the evidence which I have just read, that he was never in the workhouse of the South Dublin Union. That is not true, because we have his own deposition, taken whilst he was an inmate there.

7004. Mr. *Maguire.*] What statement did he make in Dublin?—"South Dublin Union; Stephen Costello, having been duly sworn, deposes to the effect following."

7005. *Chairman.*] This is the deposition taken in Dublin, which was transmitted to you?—Yes. "I believe that I was born in Ireland. The first place where I have any recollection of being was at Strokestown, in the county of Roscommon, where I resided with my uncle. After leaving Strokestown, I went to Castlerea, where I resided about ten or twelve years; after which, I went to England, in the year 1812. I went at once to the City of London, and resided in the parish of St. Sepulchre from that period up to the time of my removal. I first occupied an apartment in John's-court, West Smithfield; I afterwards removed to Queen's Head-court, Giltspur-street; I also lodged for some time in John's-court, in Field-lane, Hosier-lane, Wright's-buildings, and Back-lane, all in the same parish. I never lived in any other place in London except those which I have mentioned. The first time I received relief from the parish was about ten years ago, when relief was given to me for about three months. In consequence of an accident which occurred to me about seven years ago, I received extensive injuries from having been run over by a cab, when I was taken to the hospital, and after my discharge I went into the West London Union Workhouse, of which I was an occasional inmate up to the time of my removal. About four or five years ago efforts were first made to effect my removal, and I was taken before the magistrates sitting at Guildhall to make an affidavit. I was asked to swear in what place in Ireland I was born, which I was unable to do, because my father had died when I was very young, and he had been a dealer going about the country. I think I was three or four different times brought before the magistrates, and committed for a fortnight to gaol for not answering this question, which I was unable to do. I was also frequently brought up, but not committed to gaol. At last, in the month of July 1853, I was again brought up to Guildhall, where I repeated my statement as to not knowing where I was born, at the same time informing the magistrates that the last place in Ireland in which I had resided was Castlerea, from which I had come to London, through Dublin, when the magistrates said that was sufficient, and gave an order for my removal to Castlerea, which was carried into effect on the 23d of July, on which day I was put on board a packet sailing for Dublin, and on landing received money sufficient to take me to Castlerea, where I went, but could not find there a single person I ever knew before. After some time, I got employment taking care of cows, and remained there in that employment until about the 8th of February, when wishing to get back to England, my employer gave me means which enabled me to reach Dublin on my journey; but becoming destitute on my arrival there, I was forced to apply for relief, and was admitted into the workhouse of the South Dublin Union on Friday, the 10th instant, and where I still remain."

7006. You have now given us the three accounts which he has given of himself; one before his removal by you last year, the second in Dublin, and the third which he has given since he has returned?—Yes.

7007. Mr. *Liddell.*] In that third account, I think he stated that he had never been in the South Dublin Workhouse at all?—Yes; I believe his statements are not very sincere.

7008. *Chairman.*] Is there anything else which you wish to add to the information and the suggestions which you have now furnished?—No.

7009. Mr. *Liddell.*] You gave a list of the parties who were removed from your union in the years 1849 down to 1854; were all those Irish?—All Irish.

7010. Have you had any English removals in the same period?—Yes.

7011. Have you any other authenticated cases besides the case of Stephen Costello, in which paupers have been sent back to your union from Ireland?—

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I have no case which I can call authenticated, as the one which I just now referred to has been. I remember a case in the person of a woman, named Mary Madden, who was passed to Ireland two years ago, and she returned and has been chargeable to the union repeatedly since, and her children have been put out to service at considerable expense by the guardians; and it was stated, I perfectly recollect, at the time, that she had returned to this country by means which had been given to her by the mayor of the place.

7012. *Chairman.*] Do you remember who stated that?—The woman herself; I recollect it from this circumstance, that it was stated that some years ago she had given information to the Irish Government with reference to some person whose apprehension was desired; she was known and marked, and it was considered unsafe for her to remain there, and therefore the money was given her to come back to England.

7013. Mr. *Liddell.*] In the case of Stephen Costello, it appears that he had actually resided in that parish for much more than a sufficient time to secure his non-removability if he had thought fit to insist upon it?—That is not so; that is his statement, but it is not the fact.

7014. In fact it was not a compulsory removal at all, but it was a removal at his own solicitation, I think?—It was upon his own petition; at his own request. I may state that former attempts were of a compulsory character; we had endeavoured ourselves to remove him, but which attempts had failed. I should state that in the year 1852 he was an inmate of the East London Union, and therefore the irremovability was destroyed.

7015. It appears that in this case, when by the assistance you gave him he was sent back to Castlerea, the authorities of Castlerea told him that he had no claim upon them?—I have merely read his statement; I know nothing of the facts.

7016. It is highly probable that such might have been the case?—It might have been, or it might not have been.

7017. It seems that he was incapable of referring his birth to any place?—We had no means of testing it; the magistrates only grant the warrant for removal upon evidence. I will read an entry of the examination which is usually taken: "The examination of Bridget Dixon, taken on oath before us, two of Her Majesty's justices of the peace, acting in and for the city aforesaid, this 21st day of February, in the year of Our Lord 1852, who on oath saith: that, according to the best of her knowledge and belief, she was born in the county of Mayo, in that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland, which she left about three years ago, and hath no settlement in that part of the United Kingdom called England, and hath actually become and is now chargeable to the West London Union, in the City of London." That is the usual deposition which appears to be taken.

7018. But it appears from Costello's own statement, which is not very much to be relied upon, that he was incapable of deposing upon oath where he was born, or to what part of Ireland he was legally chargeable?—We all swear to the best of our belief that we were born in a certain place; we do not know it.

7019. If when he arrived at Castlerea the authorities found that he could not prove what he had stated, and that he had no claim upon them, they might have considered themselves fully justified in sending him back?—I believe that the orders of removal to Ireland are under a statute of recent date, and are subject to appeal, and that therefore the onus would lie upon the place from which the pauper is passed.

7020. *Chairman.*] You know that the power of appeal is given?—I never heard of it being exercised; but my recollection induces me to say that there is such a power.

7021. Mr. *Liddell.*] With regard to the upshot of the case, you have reason to believe that this man, Stephen Costello, was absolutely returned upon the West London Union, not only by the connivance, but by the positive assistance and direction of the authorities in Ireland?—I cannot say that the intention was to send him back to the West London Union. It appears from his statement, decidedly, that he had the means placed in his power to return to this country; he came certainly after a short interval to the West London Union, where he applied for relief.

7022. He having, when you gave him assistance to depart, given a positive and distinct pledge that he would never trouble you again?—Yes.

7023. Mr. *Maguire.*] You have no proof beyond his statement, that the authorities

rities at his assumed birthplace, either sent him back, or gave him the means of going back?—Not the slightest.

7024. There is one part of his statement I believe justified by the fact, namely, that he was several times brought before the magistrates?—That is perfectly true.

7025. Then that man, knowing that he was to be brought before them again, I suppose made some sort of compromise; is not that very likely?—We had no feelings in the matter; the Board of Guardians, I imagine, would not look at it in that view.

7026. But you persevered in trying to send him back?—I should state that it was for this reason. He has been a pauper chargeable upon the West London Union for very many years; he cohabited with a woman there, also chargeable, and who has been chargeable for many years, and by whom he has had a family, who are also chargeable; the woman and one of the daughters I believe at this moment being inmates of the workhouse. The Board of Guardians felt that this had been a long continued bad case, and that it was their duty to determine to put an end to it.

7027. How long had he lived in London and supported himself before he applied for relief?—I do not know that.

7028. Has he applied for relief for the last 10 or 12 years?—It is probable he has. It is quite as long as that.

7029. According to his statement, he seems to have been here 41 years?—He states so.

7030. If he had not applied before to the parochial authorities for relief, the assumption is that he must have supported himself by his industry, and that he had been 30 years, or 20 years, industriously employed in England; is not that the assumption?—I am not prepared to say.

7031. You were speaking about a decision as to the non-removability of an Irishman who had resided for five years in any parish in England; when was that decision made?—I think it was a decision which was given in the Court of Queen's Bench, perhaps two years ago; it is called The Queen against the Clerk of the Peace for the County of Middlesex.

7032. Do you know how many years that statute has been on the books; the law of non-removability?—I think about eight years; it is called the 9th & 10th of Victoria.

7033. It is only within the period of two years that the decision was made which guided the conduct of your board?—I may repeat, as I stated at the outset, that our Board of Guardians have never pressed the removal of the poor, in my opinion, harshly at all. It is not their practice to do so.

7034. But it seems that until two years ago they were ignorant that an Irishman, who had resided five years in the same parish, was irremovable?—Just so.

7035. And I suppose, during that time, they must have sent to Ireland a great many, under the erroneous impression that they were doing right?—I am not prepared to say that they did do so; because I think, for the past six years, as I have stated, we merely removed those persons who came suddenly into our parish.

7036. Do you mean to say that, for the past eight years, you have removed none under that wrong impression?—I am not prepared to say that we have. As I have stated, the matter is not one within my own department.

7037. You are not prepared to say to the contrary?—I cannot say anything at all about it. I should say again, that during the six years of which I have presented a return, they were, as far as I understand, persons who came suddenly into the West London Union, and persons who, or the major part of them, were without means.

7038. But if it were stated by an Irish pauper who had been removed from that parish any time previous to the promulgation of that decision, that he had been removed, though having lived for a sufficient number of years in the parish, which would entitle him under the Act not to be removed, you would not say that such a statement was false?—If it were so stated, certainly; had the removal been directed, we should have pursued it.

7039. Considering that the guardians acted in ignorance for that number of years, it is quite possible that they may have sent over a few such cases?—Just so.

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7040. And therefore they may have acted illegally unknowingly?—Unknowingly. I am not prepared to deny that such a circumstance may have occurred.

7041. When you remove paupers to Ireland, what provision for their support do you make; do you merely send them to the port, or do you send them to the place of birth?—The order directs that they shall be removed to the port nearest to the place of their birth, and our duty ceases upon the messenger delivering the pauper to the pass-master at the office in the city.

7042. In case Costello was to be sent to Castlerea; supposing there was an order of removal obtained for his transmission, would you merely send him to Dublin, or would you provide him with any means of going from Dublin to his birthplace; I understand that Costello's case is quite an exeptional one, but I am merely taking that case as an illustration; suppose a pauper's birthplace was Castlerea, and you sent that pauper from London to Dublin as being the nearest port according to your idea, would you afford him no means for his journey from Dublin to his birthplace, even though the distance was 120 miles?—Ordinarily we should not, certainly.

7043. *Chairman.*] I believe all that the law requires is, that you shall send him to Ireland, but you think that the law should be altered in that respect, and that there should be the means of sending him on?—I think so; that was my suggestion, taking the same course which is pursued with reference to the English paupers.

7044. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you removed a great many English paupers within the last couple of years?—We have removed a great many.

7045. I suppose you have obtained more orders of removal for English paupers than you have executed?—No; it invariably happens that they are executed unless such orders are appealed against and quashed by a court of quarter sessions.

7046. Does it ever happen that you charge the maintenance of a pauper on the parish to which the pauper belongs, and allow him to remain in your own?—Yes, there are cases of the sort.

7047. *Chairman.*] Non-resident relief?—Non-resident relief, which results from a correspondence with the authorities of the place to which the removal is directed to be made; they acquiesce; it is an act of humanity.

7048. Mr. *Maguire.*] You say that you are less troubled now than you were before with casual poor?—Yes, that is my opinion.

7049. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] You have stated that you think it harsh that upon a pauper removing from parish to parish in the same union he should become removable?—Yes.

7050. Suppose the area was so extended that there was no removability provided the pauper continued in the same union for five years, what would you do in the event of his leaving that union on which he had a claim; would you still give him a claim upon the union in which he had been five years resident?—Do you mean making the five years a settlement?

7051. Yes.—I certainly should not be inclined to say that that would be a judicious arrangement; my opinion is against any such arrangement, certainly.

7052. Therefore if he went beyond the union upon which he had acquired a claim, you would refuse that settlement which he previously acquired with regard to irremovability?—I think so; I understand the question to be whether, assuming the area of chargeability to be the union, and the pauper to leave that union, and to become chargeable to another union, he should then, in effect, derive a settlement in the first union.

7053. That he should fall back upon the first union?—I think such an arrangement would be objectionable.

7054. If he went beyond the union upon which he had a claim, provided the law was changed, you think he should perfect his claim upon the new union?—I think so.

7055. *Chairman.*] That is, if he went to reside out of the union?—Yes; the removability would attach again.

7056. Now it attaches if he leaves the parish?—Yes.

7057. What you propose is that the privilege which he has with respect to a parish should extend to the area of the union?—To the area of the whole union; I think it would be an act of humanity to the individual himself, and I do not think that any injurious effects would flow from it to the union.

7058. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Have you any note of the expense attending the removals

removals from your union to Ireland?—I have not any statement in writing, but as far as my recollection goes, I think I may safely say that the annual average expense for the last six years, embracing the periods which I have upon this paper, does not exceed some 60 *l.* a year.

7059. Then that is something less than 20 *s.* a head?—Yes.

7060. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was this the section of the Act about which your Board of Guardians found a difficulty in being able to construe it in favour of an Irishman: "Be it enacted, that from the passing of this Act no person shall be removed, nor shall any warrant be granted for the removal of any person from any parish in which such person shall have resided for five years next before the application for the warrant"?—I am not aware that any difficulty ever occurred with the Board of Guardians, or that the matter was ever discussed by them; certainly when that decision to which I have alluded occurred, the attention of the officers was drawn to the matter, and that effect was given to it which was incumbent and imperative.

7061. But, in point of fact, you were actually ignorant of the privilege which this Act granted to an Irishman before the promulgation of that decision?—It was a question of law.

7062. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What are the officers in your union immediately connected with the removal of the Irish paupers?—The relieving officer and a messenger.

7063. What situation does Henry Gill hold?—He is an officer of the Corporation of London.

7064. Specially appointed for the purpose?—I presume so. He is styled as follows: "To Henry Gill, a constable of the city of London, and pass-master of Scotch and Irish paupers from the said city;" that is his description.

7065. Does he appear to have been appointed by those justices, or does it state by whom he was appointed?—It does not appear upon the face of this document.

7066. *Chairman.*] Does he act for all those three unions in the city of London?—I believe he does; he has held this appointment for some years.

7067. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Does he go over with the paupers, or does he merely place them on board the steamer?—I am not aware.

7068. You stated that you had a labour yard some years ago, in which, at one time, you had as many as 112 Irish paupers?—Yes.

7069. Do you know what rate of wages they were earning at that time?—I think they were earning at the rate of 5 *s.* 3 *d.* per week.

7070. And they preferred working at that to looking for work elsewhere?—It appeared so.

7071. Was their objection, that by their being taken into the house it would be followed by removal?—The matter passed within my knowledge; the objection appeared to be, to being removed to Ireland.

7072. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] What sort of labour were they employed at in the labour yard?—In stone breaking and picking coir for matting.

7073. Did they get food in addition to the 5 *s.* 3 *d.*?—I am not positive upon that, but I think it was the practice to give them a loaf occasionally; the system has undergone alteration.

7074. Have you any labour yard now?—We have.

7075. With the same kind of employment?—Yes.

7076. *Chairman.*] You received a communication from your relieving officer, Mr. Chamberlain, in reply to a letter which I sent to him, in relation to the case of Elizabeth Keefe, referred to in questions 1045 to 1048; is this the answer from him which is printed in the Appendix?—Yes.

Mr. *William Chamberlain*, called in; and Examined.

7077. *Chairman.*] WHAT office have you under the West London Board of Guardians?—Relieving Officer.

7078. You sent to me, I believe, the letter which is now printed in our Appendix, relative to the case of Timothy Keefe?—Yes.

7079. Is that a correct statement which you sent?—It is, to the best of my recollection.

7080. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What is the course pursued by you as relieving officer, under

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under the direction of the guardians, in removing the Irish poor?—When a destitute Irish person applies, male or female, at the workhouse gate, I receive that person into the workhouse; sometimes they remain till the Board meets on the Tuesday; sometimes I direct them on the Saturday to the Guildhall, before the sitting alderman, by the messenger, who conveys them in a cab.

7081. It remains with you either to take them before the Board or to send them before the magistrates?—It all depends upon the destitution of the case. If they are entirely destitute and without habitation we remove them at once; we take them up to the Guildhall on the following Saturday.

7082. Then it remains entirely with you to remove them, without consulting the Board of Guardians at all?—Yes, generally so.

7083. It is not at all necessary for them to be taken before the Board of Guardians?—Not at all; the Board are perfectly satisfied with my judgment.

7084. Do you make any return or list of the numbers removed in that way?—The clerk is furnished every week with the numbers of the persons who are passed.

7085. Mr. *Maguire.*] You removed Keefe; in what way did you remove him and his family?—According to his own request; in consequence of being unable to maintain himself.

7086. For how many years had he lived in the parish?—Only a very short period.

7087. Have you proof of that?—I should say that I obtained proof of it.

7088. Have you proof of it now?—No.

7089. Had you proof of it when you removed him?—I had his own statement as to where he had been living previously.

7090. Are you positive that the first time Keefe applied to you he asked to be sent over to Ireland?—No.

7091. What do you say with respect to that?—I relieved him several times.

7092. Within what time?—In January, I believe, was the last time that he applied.

7093. What was the first time?—It might be 2½ years ago, or three years perhaps.

7094. Are you certain that he had not resided five years in the same parish?—Certainly not.

7095. What proof have you of that?—During the six months that he was in the West London Union he was in two if not three different parishes; in the parish of said Andrew's, Holborn, and in the parish of St. Sepulchre, and to the best of my recollection, he formerly lived in St. Bride's, but he removed out of the parish of St. Luke, Middlesex, into St. Andrews, Holborn.

7096. Has Elizabeth Keefe relatives living in London now, do you know?—She has a married daughter.

7097. Is she in good circumstances?—Very indifferent.

7098. Has she more than one married daughter, or more than one daughter supporting herself?—She has another daugher, I believe, in service.

7099. Has she a son?—The son was removed with the family to Ireland.

7100. Was the elder son removed?—I believe so.

7101. Do you know it?—Not for certain.

7102. If they stated that they had a son and two daughters able to support them in London, would you say that was a wrong statement?—I should; one of the daughters is now receiving parochial relief out of doors.

7103. Is that the married woman?—Yes, and the husband is at work at our labour yard.

7104. How long has that been the case?—Perhaps within the last month.

7105. Was that from temporary want of employment?—Yes.

Mr. *Richard Thomas Tubbs*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *R. T. Tubbs.*

7106. *Chairman.*] YOU are, I believe, an Officer in the administration of the Poor-law, in the parish of Marylebone?—I am.

7107. What is your office?—Assistant Overseer.

7108. You are aware of the subject of the inquiries of this Committee?—Yes.

7109. Are you in a condition to furnish the Committee with information as to the

the operation of the present law for the removal of Irish paupers as regards your own parish of Marylebone?—We have a very large amount of Irish in the parish, and I think if the present law was altered, doing away with the power of removing them, we should have a great many more.

7110. What is the number that you have in the parish; can you give it to us for some years past?—No, we have kept no record, I am sorry to find, of the numbers; I have upon the average about 500 applications for casual relief per week on the three relieving days.

7111. From Irish?—No, I think about 60 per cent. of those, as nearly as I can judge, are Irish.

7112. Are you describing the state of things at the present time?—Yes.

7113. How long have you had that proportion of Irish among your applications?—Since I have been there.

7114. And you have been there how long?—Five months.

7115. Were you in any way connected with the Poor-law administration in this parish, before that time?—No, not in this parish.

7116. Were you in any other parish?—In Shoreditch.

7117. St. Leonard, Shoreditch?—Yes.

7118. Have you any official information from the parish of Marylebone, going back beyond the five months?—No.

7119. What is your practice at Marylebone with regard to the removal of Irish?—If we find that they have completed an industrial five years' residence, we relieve them, if it is a case of necessity, but if they have not completed a five years' residence we remove them; but where they consent to go in one case, they refuse I should think in nine.

7120. Do you exercise a discretion as to particular cases, or do you send away all who cannot claim irremovability under the Five Years' Act?—Yes, that is the only relief which we afford them.

7121. You remove all?—We remove all. I can give the amount which we have expended during the last eight years, which is the only record we have which will give an index to the numbers. In the year 1846 the cost of Irish removals was 134 *l.* 3 *s.*; in 1847, 557 *l.* 14 *s.* 11 *d.*; in 1848, 447 *l.* 15 *s.*; in 1849, 261 *l.* 6 *s.*; in 1850, 167 *l.* 15 *s.*; in 1851, 190 *l.* 9 *s.*; in 1852, 220 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.*; in 1853, 522 *l.* 9 *s.* 5 *d.*

7122. Have you any account of 1854?—No.

7123. Does that bring it down to Lady-day 1854?—No, it brings it down to Christmas 1853.

7124. You appear to have had a large number in the course of last year?—Very large.

7125. Can you account for that in any particular way?—No. In 1846 and 1847 there was just as great a difference, from 134 *l.* to 557 *l.*

7126. That was immediately after the passing of the Act, when it had not come into full operation?—Yes.

7127. What did you say was the amount for 1852?—£. 220. 17 *s.* 6 *d.*; they cost, upon the average, about 1 *l.* 5 *s.* per head.

7128. What is the course which you adopt with regard to the removals? Take the case of a pauper who applies, and whom you find to be removable; what is done with him?—He applies for relief; we first of all send him to the proper officer to have his examination taken.

7129. That is, an officer of the directors of the poor?—Yes, he is called the inspector for removals; he takes the examination, and if possible supports it by such evidence as the pauper can produce; if he finds that the five years are not completed, he puts him under an order of removal as quickly as possible. If the pauper has completed the five years' residence, he then refers him back to me, with a certificate to that effect, for relief.

7130. If he has not completed the five years, and he becomes removable, what is then done?—We then remove him.

7131. Let us go through the various steps; is he taken before magistrates?—We take his examination, and take him before a magistrate sitting at the police court, and the magistrate uses his discretion whether he will send him or not.

7132. Is it taken in open court?—In open court.

7133. At what police court?—At the Marylebone Police Court, in High-street.

7134. Is it before two magistrates?—No, before one.

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7135. I believe by the Act of Parliament, one stipendiary magistrate is competent to do it?—Yes; we sometimes do it before two in petty sessions in the workhouse, but not often; the Irish cases are taken to the police court; we hold a petty sessions in the workhouse for that purpose about once a month.

7136. Two magistrates come there?—Yes.

7137. They constitute a court of petty sessions for the purpose?—Yes; for the purpose of removing lunatics and paupers as well.

7138. You say the stipendiary magistrate exercises a discretion as to whom he will remove or whom he will not?—Yes.

7139. Does he frequently decline to make out an order of removal?—Very frequently indeed.

7140. What, so far as you have the means of judging, is the principle upon which he goes in discriminating among the cases?—I have known Mr. Broughton, particularly, to relieve persons out of his own pocket rather than pass them when he found that they had been living for a number of years in London, although breaking their residence by living in different parishes.

7141. Mr. Broughton is one of the magistrates?—Yes; he frequently has done so.

7142. Is there any principle which has been laid down, so far as you know, upon which they go in removing, or refusing to remove?—No; I am not aware of any.

7143. Suppose an order is made, who has the order?—One of the messengers is sent down with it to the depôt; we do not take the Irish cases into the workhouse, we merely receive them and take them at once over to the police court, and at once pass them down to Wapping, to the depôt.

7144. What is the depôt at Wapping?—It is kept by Mr. Rankley; he receives them at so much a head, and keeps them until the ship sails, and then sends them to the nearest port to the place to which they belong.

7145. Is that under arrangement with the parish of Marylebone?—No; it is generally for all the parishes in Middlesex; a scheme was settled by the Secretary of State, drawn up by the magistrates.

7146. And under that scheme this is part of the arrangement?—Yes.

7147. Is he the person who puts them on board?—Yes.

7148. Does anybody go with them?—Yes; we send an officer with them.

7149. Where to?—Down as far as Wapping.

7150. Not beyond?—No.

7151. Do you know his practice as to giving copies of the orders or otherwise, to the captain of the vessel?—I do not; we send him one copy of the order, and we keep the other.

7152. You expressed an opinion just now that if the power of removal were taken away, it would be attended with mischievous effects; am I to understand that that is your opinion?—I think it would be.

7153. Can you state any grounds upon which you form that conclusion?—A great number of persons who apply to me casually for relief, will go away and do the best they can for themselves rather than be passed.

7154. Have you found that among the Irish especially?—Among the Irish especially; a great number of such cases occur every week.

7155. What in your opinion will be the consequence of doing away with the power of removal, as far as they are concerned?—I think it would ultimately recoil on the poor themselves; because I think the parishes, in self-defence, would lower their scale of relief, and make it as low as they possibly could, to prevent their being inundated by those parties who would not be removable.

7156. Have you any means of judging of your scale in the Marylebone Workhouse, as compared with the scale in the Irish workhouses?—I have not; I am not aware what the scale is in the Irish workhouses.

7157. Have you heard whether the Irish poor have much dread, or otherwise, of being returned to Ireland?—Yes; it is very strong in many instances; it is very seldom that we have them apply to go.

7158. Do some such cases occur?—Yes, I have occasionally such cases; perhaps in the last five months I have had as many as a dozen cases; I am speaking from recollection.

7159. During the short time that you have been there, have you known cases of persons returning who have been removed?—I have not known them; but I have referred to cases in the books where a memorandum has been made of them;

a woman

a woman of the name of Judith McGrail has been passed three times, and each time her fare was paid back by some person unknown.

7160. Mr. *Maguire.*] From what port?—From Dublin.

7161. *Chairman.*] Was that the account which she gave of it, that she did not know who paid it?—That was taken from herself, I have no doubt.

7162. Have you any other case?—There was the case of Mary Ann Hanwright, who was passed twice, I believe, to Dublin.

7163. She returned?—Yes; I find another case, of Sarah Cunningham, who was passed, and she returned within a fortnight; her children have since been in the house two or three different times, while she has been in prison for various offences.

7164. What account did she give when she came back at the end of the fortnight?—I am not aware; it was not in my time; I only find a record of it.

7165. But it was within a fortnight?—Within a fortnight.

7166. Mr. *Maguire.*] For what cause was she put into prison?—I am not aware of the cause.

7167. As a vagrant?—As a vagrant or for stealing; I am reading what is put in the book.

7168. *Chairman.*] Have you any other instances?—There is the case of a woman, named Conden, with four children, which case, I believe, appeared in the papers; her husband had left her at the time, and she and her family were passed to Cork; the fare was paid back again by the Mayor of Cork, and they were all returned.

7169. Mr. *Maguire.*] In what year was that?—I cannot tell; it is merely a memorandum made against her that she did come back.

7170. *Chairman.*] Did not the entry give the date of the year even?—No; this is just a copy of it. I have no doubt that I could procure the date by the next sitting of the Committee. The book called the Irish Book was not indexed up, and I could not find it. There was another case with which I, myself, had a great deal of trouble; a woman of the name of Mary Kelly, with four children; two of them, I believe, were illegitimate, and I believe that there are Irish orders in three or four other parishes now awaiting her; she fixes herself upon a parish, and she continues there about three or four months. She was for some considerable time in St. Pancras, and she also went to St. Ann's. In various places she tries to make a settlement, and as soon as an Irish order is made she goes away, and goes through the same routine with another parish.

7171. That is a case which you have known of?—Yes; I had a great deal of trouble to get a clue to her.

7172. Where was she when you heard of her last?—The last time I saw her was at the Marylebone Police Court; I called the attention of the officer to her, and told him what an impostor she was; and he told Mr. Broughton, in order to prevent his being imposed upon.

7173. Was she then applying for relief?—Yes; she was applying to get something from the poor box, as she said.

7174. What became of her?—I have lost sight of her since; that was about three weeks since.

7175. Have you any other information to give us about persons returning, who have been removed?—No. There is, at the present moment, a correspondence going on, through the Poor-law Board, with the authorities in Dublin upon the case of Eliza Molloy, whom we sent over, who had been here for some years. The Board of Guardians in Marylebone use a discretion in all cases where the parties are aged, or where there are any reasons why they should not be sent.

7176. What is the kind of discretion which they exercise?—It is this: there was an old woman, of the name of Lynch, who had lived in the parish of Marylebone for some years, and no doubt had completed more than the five years' residence, but she removed to St. Giles's. When she found her mistake, after living there about a fortnight, she returned to Marylebone, and the guardians took her case into consideration, and, she being an old woman, they allowed her to remain; and she is at present in the workhouse.

7177. Though she was legally removable, having changed her residence?—Yes.

7178. Mr. *Maguire.*] How many years had she resided in England?—About 26.

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7179. *Chairman.*] And she is now residing in your workhouse?—Yes.

7180. Is there any further information which you wish to give us with regard to the working of the Act?—No.

7181. We must trouble you for any suggestions which you have to make with regard to the improvement of the law; you say you are of opinion that it would not be advisable to repeal the law of removal altogether?—I think not.

7182. Is there any alteration of the law which you think might be made with advantage, so as to render it less harsh, and at the same time to secure the object of the law?—I agree with the last witness but one, Mr. Chambers, that it would only be just that the paupers should be passed to the place of their residence, and not landed at the nearest port. I think that that is a hardship, leaving them in many cases without a penny in their pockets, and with no means of getting to the place of their nativity.

7183. Have you considered the question of extending the area from the parish to the union, so as to render a person irremovable who has resided five years in the same union?—I have not, because ours is a very large parish.

7184. Yours is a single parish?—Yes.

7185. I believe St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, where you were before, is a single parish under a local Act?—Yes; a very large parish.

7186. You have had no opportunity, like Mr. Chambers, of observing the state of things in a union?—I have not.

7187. Is there any other suggestion which you can make to us?—No; I am not aware that I can. I will get the particulars of the cases which I have mentioned.

7188. Mr. *Maguire.*] I think you stated to the Chairman that you have invariably removed where the party has not completed a five years' residence in your parish?—Yes, if he has claimed relief.

7189. Do you announce to them that you will send them to Ireland before you give them relief?—Yes; I give them the alternative.

7190. You are positive of that, that you always give them the alternative?—Quite positive.

7191. In case a person had been, say 10 years in London, and yet had not lived five years in one parish, should you think it your duty to send that person to Ireland?—I should.

7192. You make no exception to your rule; that rule is strict?—Certainly.

7193. And it remains with the stipendiary magistrate, or with the magistrates, whether he or they will send that person or not?—Precisely.

7194. You are quite clear upon that?—Yes.

7195. Then your orders are strict, to remove every person who has not a legal claim upon the parish?—Unless they are prevented by sickness.

7196. But otherwise?—Otherwise we should send them.

7197. Mr. *Liddell.*] Or great age or infirmity?—Or great age.

7198. Mr. *Maguire.*] Was the rule adopted in Shoreditch two years ago, the same as was adopted in the West London Union, as was stated by Mr. Chambers?—To the best of my recollection, it was.

7199. They did not know that the Irremovable Act applied to an Irishman as well as to an Englishman?—I believe there are some parishes now which have some doubt upon the subject.

7200. Who are the two magistrates who come to your workhouse?—They are magistrates of the county.

7201. Who are they?—Generally Mr. Kirby and Mr. Armstrong.

7202. Are they Poor-law guardians?—No, not that I am aware of; not of our parish.

7203. Are they Poor-law guardians of any parish?—I should say not.

7204. *Chairman.*] I suppose they would be *ex officio* Poor-law guardians of the union in which they reside in Middlesex; however, they are not of your parish?—They reside in the parish, and therefore, I presume, they are not guardians of any other parish.

7205. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] When you state that it is a case of great hardship, sending the poor Irish over to the nearest port in Ireland, what would you recommend to be done in that case?—It is a case to which I have hardly given my attention; it could only be done by establishing a depôt there, or some means by which they could be forwarded on to their destination at the expense of those who sent them.

7206. Then you think that the authorities in Ireland ought not to be at the expense of forwarding from Dublin to his native parish any pauper who is sent from England?—I think not, any more than I would have English paupers forwarded to Liverpool and then sent from Liverpool to different parts of the country.

7207. When you remove an English pauper to his parish, do you at once remove him to his parish in England, or pass him from parish to parish?—We send an officer direct with him, whose duty it is to deliver him to the churchwarden or overseer, or the workhouse of the parish to which he belongs.

7208. Then you would recommend that all Irish paupers removed from Britain should be sent by the parish removing them to the parish from which they came in Ireland?—Certainly; that appears to me reasonable.

7209. In those cases in which Irishmen cannot tell the parish in which they were born, how would you manage that?—They generally tell us the county; we send them to the county in which they were born; we very seldom get the parish.

7210. The county would not do; the pauper cannot be relieved by the county?—The wording of most of their examinations is, "To the best of my knowledge and belief, I was born in the county of Cork," or "I was born in the county of Limerick;" and we send them to the nearest port to that county. We very rarely put the name of the parish in the warrant, because we do not get it.

7211. Supposing the officer of the parish in England accompanies the pauper to the county, to whom is he to deliver him there?—I think that that would be too great an expense to be undertaken by any parish, to send an officer to Ireland.

7212. You have just stated that you think it right that the parish in England removing the pauper should see that he was taken to the place of his birth in Ireland?—We have a depôt here in Wapping to which they are sent, and I made the remark that it would only be fair to have a similar one in Ireland, with an officer who would forward them to their destination.

7213. I want to have from you the means by which you would carry out that humane act which you state, of sending each Irish pauper to the parish of his nativity. You state that they rarely tell the parish, and that it is the county which they state?—Yes.

7214. Counties have no poor-relief unions, it is all by parishes; therefore I want to know what plan you would have, by which the parish sending their officer with a pauper should be relieved of him when he got to Ireland?—The plan which I have just stated, by having a depôt to which they could be sent at the different ports, with an officer, whose duty it would be to forward them to the place to which they belonged.

7215. At whose expense?—It would have to be done at the expense of those who sent them, I apprehend.

7216. Supposing they could not find the pauper's parish, would he come back to the depôt?—I apprehend that he would be sent to the union.

7217. If they could not find his parish, of course they could not find his union, because the parish would be in the union, therefore what would you do with him then?—That is a difficulty which I had not anticipated.

7218. You, in the first instance, recommend that a depôt should be established in Ireland for the receipt of those paupers sent from England by the various parishes; from what funds would that depôt be paid?—It would be maintained, I apprehend, at the cost of the large parishes, the metropolitan parishes, those who send out the largest number, on the same system as the depôt is maintained at Wapping; it is at per head.

7219. You propose that the pauper should be delivered at that depôt at which the vessel arrives, either in Dublin or anywhere else?—Yes.

7220. When you send over a pauper to this depôt (supposing it to be at Dublin), to be by the manager of that depôt forwarded to what he states to be his parish, and when the pauper goes to that parish, and the authorities there say that he does not belong to the parish, of course he is in a destitute condition, must he come back to the depôt?—They would be bound to receive him under the warrant by which he would be sent.

7221. Provided it was his right parish: a man says that a certain parish is the place of his nativity, and when he goes there they say, "No, he does not belong to us," and therefore they may refuse to receive him?—That could only be

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obviated by a power of appeal, similar to English cases, and that would lead, of course, to giving notice.

7222. You having suggested a humane plan, I wish to see how it could be carried into effect, but when you come to look into the details which I have pointed out you cannot see how it would operate or be worked?—It was not my first statement; I said that I agreed with the statement made by Mr. Chambers, that it would be a very benevolent plan to carry out such a system as that.

7223. *Chairman.*] And a right object to aim at, I understand?—And a right object to aim at; but I have not gone into detail in my own mind to give evidence upon it.

7224. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] There is vast difficulty attending it?—Undoubtedly, and so there is with all great changes; that would be a very great change.

7225. Do not you think that if such a law passed, the moment an Irishman was sent to any place in Ireland, he should be maintained by the port to which he was sent till they found out the parish to which he belonged?—I am not in a position to state.

7226. He being amongst his own countrymen, they knowing the habits of the people, and being better acquainted with the process by which the parish could be correctly ascertained, do not you think that by placing the onus of finding the parish upon the first and nearest port in Ireland, it would be the best mode of providing for the transmission of the pauper?—The English union might consider so, but I think the Irishman would differ very widely.

7227. Do not you think that that is the most just way?—I am not in a position to say.

7228. Then you do not think that if an Englishman is set upon these shores from a foreign country as a pauper, we are bound, as the English or British people, to take care that that man does not starve?—I cannot say. Of course, if there were a national rate, it would not matter where he was put.

7229. An Englishman set upon our shores now, without a national rate, is taken care of, is he not?—I am not aware of any country that passes Englishmen over in that way.

7230. *Chairman.*] Scotland?—In Scotch cases we send them to the place of their birth, as near as we can get them.

7231. Mr. *Maguire.*] If the duty were imposed upon the Irish port to send all paupers to the place of their birth, do you not think that that would impose a very great difficulty upon that Irish port. Supposing the port of Cork or the port of Dublin had imposed upon the guardians of that port the necessity of sending the paupers to the place of their birth, would not that impose upon them a very great difficulty?—Not much greater than they take now voluntarily by sending them back to England.

7232. Who passes them back to England?—The mayor of Cork; we have repeated instances. I have had many persons who have applied to me, but I have not a record of their names.

7233. How many instances?—During the last 12 months I dare say we have 20 that have told me that they have been sent over and have had their passage paid back again.

7234. *Chairman.*] To your parish?—They have not all been sent by our parish, but they have applied to me for relief, and have stated that they have been sent back again.

7235. Mr. *Maguire.*] Suppose the law was so changed that the guardians of the port of Cork or of the port of Dublin were compelled to send a pauper to the place of his birth, is it not very likely that the sending of those paupers to the place of their birth might involve them in serious litigation with unions in those several districts?—No, I think not; because they would have the warrant upon which the pauper is passed, upon which they could act.

7236. Supposing they made a mistake and sent the pauper to the wrong place, would not it involve the question of settlement?—I do not see how they could do that.

7237. Would it not in that case?—Yes, it would.

7238. If the Board who had the power of sending them to another place sent them to the wrong place, would not the union to which they were wrongly sent feel themselves aggrieved?—It is a difficulty which is not likely to arise, I think.

7239. First of all, how are you to know where a pauper was born; you have the pauper's statement for it?—By his own statement.

7240. Supposing

7240. Supposing the pauper gave a wrong statement, and the Board of Guardians in Cork, acting upon that, sent him to the union where he said he was born, and he really was not born there, might not that create a hardship?—If it could not be proved.

7241. It would then resolve itself into a question of proof?—Of course it would.

7242. Where a question of that kind arises litigation follows?—In some instances.

7243. Is it not the ordinary case in England?—It is the ordinary case.

7244. You have said that a great number apply to you, and that you refuse them, and they go away?—Yes.

7245. What becomes of them afterwards?—I do not know.

7246. You know nothing of that?—I know nothing of it.

7247. And, practically, you care nothing?—No, that is not a fair inference.

7248. You know nothing of what becomes of them afterwards?—No, I do not.

7249. You never inquire into their circumstances?—I have no means of inquiring.

7250. They might be very destitute, might they not?—No; I first of all have them inspected; every case that applies is visited; if they persist in requiring relief, or want it, they are inspected, and then the examination is taken; if we find that they are removable they are told that they will be sent to Ireland, and we find that in most cases they go away.

7251. You do not know what becomes of them afterwards?—They, in all probability, go to some other parish.

7252. But they might be very destitute, and might have no possible means of supporting themselves?—If they had not we should give them casual relief. I should not let them want.

7253. Do not you say that in every case of a party applying for relief you obtain an order for removal?—Yes; but I give them the alternative; I do not forcibly take them and put them under orders.

7254. Supposing they go away terrified by your threat of the alternative which you offer them, you do not know but that any of those persons may be really destitute?—I have each case inspected, and we find that many of them are destitute.

7255. And that they still will not accept relief, because they will be sent to Ireland if they do?—Just so.

7256. You know nothing of what becomes of those destitute people afterwards?—No.

7257. They may either resort to theft, or to some other means of supporting themselves?—I do not hear of any such cases.

7258. You know nothing of them?—No; I do not follow them to see where they go. I always, as a general rule, relieve first and inquire afterwards.

7259. *Chairman.*] I understand you to be of opinion, without having worked out the details of the scheme in your own mind, that it is a right object in itself for the law to aim at, that a poor person removed from this country to Ireland shall be removed in the care of some poor-law authority, and delivered over to some poor-law authority in Ireland?—Decidedly so.

7260. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Speaking of casual relief, I think you said that 60 per cent. of the casual relief granted by your parish was to Irish?—Yes.

7261. Irish having no claim?—The number of applicants I was speaking of.

7262. Do you mean to say that 60 per cent. have no claim upon your parish?—No; I give the number of the applicants which we have; 60 per cent. of the casual applicants I believe to be Irish; we do not keep any book of them to distinguish Irish from English, but that is my own idea.

7263. Suppose a party applied for this casual relief, how long would you continue giving it?—It depends entirely upon circumstances; if it was merely a temporary thing we should perhaps give it to them for a week or two.

7264. What does this casual relief cost the parish of Marylebone per annum?—I am not prepared to say exactly; the whole cost of the poor is about 54,000*l.* a year, but I do not know exactly the difference as between the house and the out-door relief.

7265. Is the expense of the depôt at Wapping included in the sum which you have given as the expense of removal?—Yes, that includes the whole of it.

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7266. Mr. *Maguire.*] You do not give casual relief to any person who has not a claim upon you?—Except in particular cases.

7267. Is it not your order to remove every person who even accepts casual relief, who has not a legal claim upon you?—No; I think you have misunderstood me. Supposing a person applies, and I give him casual relief, it may be done perhaps once, or twice, or thrice, but if we find that they come regularly we then take steps to remove them; we do not put a person under an order the moment he applies.

7268. *Chairman.*] That was your meaning?—That was my meaning; we allow no person who is unsettled to remain upon the books.

7269. Then, as far as you are concerned, you treat them as removable, but you say the magistrates exercise a discretion whether they will remove them or not?—Yes, the magistrates have a discretion in Irish cases, which they have not in English.

7270. And they exercise it, you say?—And they exercise it very largely.

Mr. *Charles Hibbard*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *C. Hibbard.*

7271. *Chairman.*] WHAT office do you hold in the parish of St. Pancras, connected with the administration of the Poor-law?—Removing Agent to the directors of the poor.

7272. St. Pancras is under a local Act, and a parish by itself, I believe, for the relief of the poor?—Yes.

7273. How long have you held your office?—Since Easter 1849.

7274. Had you any office connected with the Poor-law before that time?—Previously to that time I was about three years in the parish of St. Marylebone, as assistant relieving officer; at least as inspector of the out-door poor.

7275. Ever since the present Act has been in operation you have been connected with the administration of the Poor-law, either in Pancras or in Marylebone?—Yes.

7276. Have you considered the subject of our present inquiries, the operation of the existing law relative to the removal of the Irish poor from England?—Yes; I have had many opportunities of seeing the operation of it, and I think that if the law were repealed it would entail heavy burthens upon parishes situated like ours; either metropolitan parishes, or parishes in manufacturing districts.

7277. I understand you to be of opinion that you cannot, yourself, recommend the repeal of the law?—I think not.

7278. Will you state any other grounds which occur to you as rendering such a step unadvisable?—I think the principal ground would be, on account of the law as it at present stands being a great check to persons receiving relief from parishes where they are resident.

7279. In what way does it operate?—I think that we do not remove one person out of 20 who make application, or who become chargeable, in the first instance; the great majority of them, upon being threatened with removal, cease to be chargeable, and rely upon their own resources.

7280. Do you think that your workhouse of itself would be a sufficient test and check, without the power of removal?—No, I do not; because I have seen cases that have remained in the workhouse for a very considerable period, certainly for over a year; some for more than two years; and when at last it has been ascertained that they belonged to Ireland, and could be removed, they have left the workhouse, and have ceased to be chargeable in any way to the parish.

7281. That was upon your intimating that you would have to remove them?—That we should remove them.

7282. Have you any means of judging how far they prefer, or otherwise, your system of relief to the system provided by law in Ireland?—No, I have not.

7283. Can you give the Committee an account of the number of removals which you have had of the Irish within the last three years?—I have a copy of the return made, I think, to this Committee.

7284. What is that return?—For the years ending Lady-day 1849 up to 1854; for the year 1849 the persons removed were six.

7285. Are these six persons, and not cases?—Yes.

7286. From

7286. From St. Pancras?—Yes; they were comprised in three orders, so that there were double numbers. To Lady-day 1850 the same number were removed; to Lady-day 1851, 16 persons were removed; to Lady-day 1852, 35 persons were removed; to Lady-day, 1853, 27; to Lady-day in the present year the persons removed have been nine. During the year ending Lady-day 1851, three persons were removed to Scotland; and in the year ending Lady-day 1854 five persons have been removed to Scotland. Those are the only removals to Scotland which we have had during the same period of six years.

7287. Have you had any removals from Scotland to the parish of St. Pancras?—Yes; I remember one some three years ago, I think.

7288. Only one all that time?—Only one, a child.

7289. What is your course of proceeding at St. Pancras when you determine upon applying for an order of removal?—The pauper's examination is taken, and he is then taken before two justices sitting in the vestry-room.

7290. Do you take an examination?—I take an examination.

7291. And then you take him before two justices?—Before two justices sitting in the vestry-room.

7292. Are they justices of the county of Middlesex?—They are.

7293. Have you the same two gentlemen pretty constantly?—We generally have four or five. St. Pancras is a separate division, and the whole of the justices of the division are summoned, and it generally occurs that we have four or five attending the meetings every fortnight; every alternate Monday.

7294. Is it an open proceeding?—If any person chose to be present he could; notice is given of it at the church doors.

7295. Is the pauper examined upon oath before the magistrates?—The written examination is read over after he is sworn, to which he attaches a mark, or his signature, if he can write; and upon that the order is made.

7296. Is it conducted in such a way that the pauper has full means of knowing what he is sworn to?—Yes; every examination is read over; I generally read them over before they are taken before the magistrates, so as to make any alteration that may be necessary, and then, in the presence of the magistrates, they are always read over by the magistrates' clerk, who is a solicitor.

7297. Do the magistrates exercise a discretion about it as to removing or not removing?—Yes; they seldom refuse making an order, but they very often suggest that the order should not be carried into effect, and that the party should be allowed to leave the workhouse on promising that he will not be chargeable again, and in many instances that has been, as far as the parish is concerned, beneficial; but they seldom do that, except persons have been several times chargeable to the parish, and generally in the workhouse. We seldom seek an order of removal for any Irish person who is not first an inmate of the workhouse.

7298. Do you go upon the principle of distinguishing between the different classes of the Irish, whom you will remove or not?—I have no doubt the relieving officers do.

7299. It does not come within your province?—No; the reason why I say so is, that I know that great numbers of the Irish labouring class, the bricklayers' labourers, are relieved throughout the winter.

7300. Would a great many of those be removed, if you thought fit to carry out the law?—Very likely they would; in fact, in some cases, I know they would; because they have received relief in the parish of St. Marylebone, and have since removed into the parish of St. Pancras, and I have seen those persons receiving relief.

7301. You believe that they would have been legally removable to Ireland?—Yes, as far as residence goes, because I have known myself that their period of residence has not been five years.

7302. Supposing you determine to carry out the order of removal, what becomes of the pauper?—He is sent down in care of one of the officers to the depôt at Wapping.

7303. Mr. Rankley's place?—Yes; it was first established by Mr. Baker; they remain there, I think, till every Thursday; every Thursday the vessel sails for Cork; and on Friday or Saturday, Saturday, I think, for Dublin. Mr. Rankley keeps them until the time of the vessel sailing.

7304. He does not go with them, I suppose, or any person from him?—He sends a person with them.

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7305. All the way?—All the way.

7306. He sends a person to Dublin and also to Cork?—Yes, he has men in his employ; Mr. Rankley himself was formerly in the employment of Mr. Baker, who at the time the contract existed with the Middlesex magistrates, arranged with the parishes to convey these persons. Since the contract with the Middlesex magistrates has been discontinued, Mr. Rankley himself conducts this depôt, and it is believed to be the best way of removing the Irish, for the simple reason that the same regulations are now in force as were in force under Mr. Baker's contract with the magistrates, sanctioned by the Secretary of State; therefore, no alteration has been made, although, in point of fact, the contract is not in existence now, I believe.

7307. Does your parish contract with Mr. Rankley?—No; he simply provides this depôt, and he charges a certain sum, 25 *s.*, I think, for each adult person, for removing them to Ireland; to the different ports.

7308. But he acts under the regulations of the magistrates?—The previous regulations; there is no distinction made in reference to the removals now from what there was at the time when that contract was in existence.

7309. Do you remember whether those were the original regulations made in the time of Sir James Graham?—They are signed by Sir James Graham.

7310. Are there any other facts which you wish to bring before us connected with this subject, which you think might be useful for our information?—I am not aware of any.

7311. Has your attention been drawn to the case of Margaret Roach, in question 2444, which was spoken to by Mr. Barrington, a Limerick case?—Yes; I had the declaration of Margaret Roach forwarded to the Directors from the Poor-law Board, at the time the removal took place; in 1851, I think.

7312. I believe a communication was made of this by the Poor Law Board to the directors, in order that they might have an opportunity of submitting any observations to this Committee?—Exactly so.

7313. Have you anything from the parish relating to this subject?—I have nothing further than was sent to the Poor Law Board at that time, in 1851.

7314. Have you a copy of it?—Not with me; but I think I have the facts sufficiently in my recollection.

7315. Will you state what the facts of that case are?—It appears that Margaret Roach was admitted into the workhouse on the 4th of December 1849 with two children, and she had one born in the workhouse on the 6th of December, two days after her admission. From the time of her admission in 1849 up to July 1850, the examination of all persons in the workhouse was conducted by Mr. Cater, then the overseer, now dead, and after his death, I was appointed to that situation. I have referred to the Discharge Committee's minutes; the Discharge Committee is a committee sitting every Friday to review the inmates admitted during the week. On the 4th of January, I find Margaret Roach was before the committee, and ordered to remain seven days for further inquiry to be made with reference to her. On the 11th of January she was before the committee, and was ordered to remain a further period of 14 days; and on the 25th of January she was again before them, and ordered to remain a fortnight. She does not appear to have been before them again until the 15th of March, which was a house call, a committee appointed to see all the inmates of the workhouse, and she was ordered to remain. Then on the 18th of July she was again before the committee, and was ordered to remain for inquiry. Upon referring to Mr. Cater's notes, I find that she said she was a native of Boston, in Lincolnshire, and that her parents resided there in Bread-street. Mr. Cater sent an officer (this is, I believe, true) down there to make inquiries with reference to her parents, but he could get no information respecting her.

7316. What is the ground of your belief?—I have a recollection of having had some conversation with Mr. Cater, in reference to an inquiry in Boston, which I think related to this person, but I am not positive; when I saw her first, she stated to me that she had been a milk carrier to a Mr. Ash, of the Westminster Bridge Road, and she also mentioned other places where she had been in service, but she was not old enough to have gained any settlement by service; she never mentioned to me anything about Boston, but in the course of the examination she stated that she was known to a Mr. M'Carthy, living in Field-lane, and that Mrs. M'Carthy's daughter lived with her in one of those services. I sent for Mrs. M'Carthy's daughter, and she stated that the first time she knew this woman was

when

when she was about 18 years of age, and that she had then just come from Limerick, of which place she understood she was a native; and that witness was taken before the magistrates, and they signed an order, upon her deposition, for the removal of Margaret Roach and her children to Ireland. The reason why the statement of Margaret Roach was doubted was, that there was a woman named Keefe in the workhouse, who was stated to be a widow, but she had three children also, (the last one was illegitimate,) and they had both set up residences with the same persons, and as soon as this order was made for Roach's removal Keefe left the workhouse 10 days afterwards; Roach was removed on the 4th of January 1851, and Keefe left the workhouse on the 14th of January. We have not heard of either of them since, with the exception of that communication from the Poor-law Board.

7317. Mr. *Maguire.*] What aged person was Margaret Roach?—She was described to be 26.

7318. Did she state to you that she was born in Boston?—No.

7319. Her statement is, that her aunt told her that she had been born in Boston; did she say that her aunt told her that she had been born in Boston?—No; I never heard her mention Boston.

7320. Where did she state that she was born?—She said that she did not know.

7321. Have you any proof that she was not in London till she was eight or nine years of age?—No.

7322. Had she not been staying long enough to establish a bar to removal?—No; she had been living in the adjoining parish of St. Marylebone, and had one of her children born there.

7323. She states, in her declaration, that she was not married; so that there is no deception as to that?—No, she was not married; and she never stated that she was married.

7324. Did she ask for her discharge?—Not to my knowledge.

7325. Are you positive of that?—She would not ask me for it; she never asked me for it before the order for her removal was made.

7326. Have you read her statement?—Yes; I know her statement.

7327. Are you quite certain that she never asked you for her discharge?—Quite certain.

7328. Was not she a person who had a struggle with the officers for some time?—Yes.

7329. Were they not rather anxious to get rid of her?—Yes.

7330. If she had asked for her discharge, would it have been given?—It would not, after the order of removal was made.

7331. Then she was right in saying that she asked for an order of discharge, and that it was refused?—If after the order of removal was made, but before that time, we should only have been too glad to let her go.

7332. I suppose you cannot answer for Mr. Eaton?—No.

7333. *Chairman.*] He is no longer in the service of the authorities of St. Pancras?—No.

7334. Mr. *Maguire.*] She says, "In two days after this inquiry I went into the office of Mr. Eaton, the master, and again demanded my discharge; he replied that he had received imperative orders to have a close eye upon me, as I was to be passed to Ireland in a few days; that he was very sorry he could not give me my discharge, but that Mr. Hibbard told him that if it was to cost 50 *l.* he would pass me to Ireland"?—I have no recollection of ever making any such a statement to Mr. Eaton.

7335. At any rate, you were determined to pass her to Ireland?—Yes; after the order was made.

7336. And perhaps it is not improbable that in your eagerness you did express yourself in that way?—I would not say I did not.

7337. What was the reason of that woman seeking parish relief?—I do not know; I only know the circumstance of her coming into the workhouse, and that she came in two days before she was confined with her third child.

7338. That is what drove her in?—No doubt.

7339. How long did she remain?—Up to the time of her being passed, from December 1849 to January 1851.

7340. Did not you keep her there?—No; there was simply an order of committee for the purpose of her being brought up again at some specified period; but

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but if she had applied to the master for her discharge at any time during that period, she could have had it: the order of the committee for her to remain is only that the directors may not lose sight of the case.

7341. Might not she imagine that the guardians were about to do something for her, to give her out-door relief when she got strength?—She applied for it, I believe, and I believe it was refused.

7342. Then you do not mean to contradict the assertion of this woman, that she did apply for her discharge, and that it was refused?—I have no doubt that she did not apply for her discharge before the order was made in January 1851.

7343. At any rate she had lived a considerable number of years in England?—According to the statement which we had, she had been about seven or eight years in England.

7344. More than that?—Not according to the statement of the woman upon whose evidence she was removed; she was stated to be 26 years of age; and this woman stated that when she first knew her she was about 18.

7345. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Have you the date of the order for her removal?—I have not.

7346. Mr. *Maguire.*] Her statement is, "Mrs. Brudenal was sent for then; her statement was drawn up in writing before I came into the vestry-room, and read out for me before Mrs. Brudenal was to swear to its contents, wherein she states that she believes I told her that one of my parents belonged to the county of Limerick. Upon my doing so Mr. Hibbard reproved me, and said, 'You must not speak.' Mrs. Brudenal then swore to and signed the statement, in presence of two magistrates, and so on." It seems by her statement that she was not allowed to reply, and that you took an *ex-parte* statement?—I should think not; I should think the magistrates would have heard anything that she had to say. I do not remember the circumstance particularly, except that I remember the two women being there.

7347. Are you perfectly certain that Mrs. Brudenal stated that this woman did not come to England till she was 18 years of age?—I am certain that Mrs. M'Carthy's daughter stated, that she knew her about 18 years of age living with her as milk-carrier in Westminster Bridge-road, and that she had just come from Limerick, of which place she understood she was a native. The impression on my mind, and such was repeated in the deposition of Mrs. Brudenal, was, that this was her first arrival in England.

7348. She believed so?—She believed so.

7349. Are you sure that Mrs. Brudenal was positive of all this?—Yes, because she swore to it; I have not the slightest doubt but that she knew it.

7350. Had this woman applied for relief before 1849?—I do not know.

7351. You have no record of it?—No; I have not searched for any in the out-door relief list.

7352. In point of fact, it was her distressed state at that time which drove her in?—Yes.

7353. *Chairman.*] Have you turned your attention to the subject, how far this law of removal of the Irish is capable of improvement; you are of opinion, as I understand, that you cannot do away safely with the power of removal altogether; have you considered whether the law which regulates that can be improved in any way?—I do not see in what way it can, except in reference to a remark which I heard made by Mr. Tubbs, alluding to Mr. Chambers's evidence, that there might be some provision probably made for those persons upon their arrival in Ireland.

7354. That is, that they should be taken by some Poor-law officer from this country, and put into the charge of a Poor-law officer in Ireland?—Yes; they are taken in charge of an officer; at all events, of a person who represents the parishes; a man employed by Mr. Rankley; he goes over in every vessel.

7355. That is, to Ireland?—Yes.

7356. He is not bound at present to do more than that?—Yes, I believe he is bound, according to the contract, to deliver them up to the mayor, and to make a declaration before the mayor. I have never seen any of those declarations, but I have been told that I could have them in any particular case in which they might be applied for.

7357. You mean the mayor at the seaport?—Yes.

7358. At all events, he is not bound to do more than that?—No, they are delivered

delivered into the care of the mayor, who, I suppose, is expected to forward them on to their destination. In this year's return one of those orders is referred to. In that case there was a man very much afflicted with gout, who was going to Athlone, and from our parish he received a sovereign to pay his expenses after he was landed; he was seen by Mr. Rankley's officer into the train, taking him, I think he said, to Athlone.

7359. Do you say that there is a formal contract, one provision of which is, that the person taking the pauper shall deliver him up to the mayor of the seaport?—Yes, I believe there is.

7360. Is that a contract in common use?—I have always understood so; this is from conversation which I have had with Mr. Rankley, speaking of these removals some long time since. If I might offer a suggestion, Mr. Rankley perhaps might be a useful man to supply information in that respect; his depôt is at 325, High-street, Wapping.

7361. Colonel *Blair*.] What position does he hold?—He is a sort of contractor now; he provides a depôt, and receives so much for each adult person for removing them to Ireland from the parishes; he acts for a certain price, in fact, as an officer of the different parishes.

7362. *Chairman*.] Mr. Rankley would give us an account of the system?—Mr. Rankley would give the best account of any one that I know, because he has been engaged under the old contract by Mr. Baker in conveying the paupers by the boats.

7363. You think it, however, a right and desirable thing, I understand, that the pauper should go in the charge of some responsible officer from this country, and should not be lost sight of till he is delivered to some responsible officer in Ireland?—I think so; but I certainly always understood that when they were delivered up at the seaport they were conveyed, or in some way sent on, by the authorities there; every care is taken of them until they reach the shore.

7364. You do not know what power the mayor at the seaport has or has not?—No.

7365. Is there any other suggestion which you wish to bring before the Committee?—No, there is nothing which I am aware of; there is one further case upon which I thought the Committee might want some information with reference to a woman of the name of Macarthy, which was mentioned before this Committee; but the explanation of that case perhaps is satisfactory. I have seen the man that she says she was married to; she states that he was an inmate of Middlesex Hospital; he never was in Middlesex Hospital; but he had been in the North London Hospital; at the time she was confined he was an inmate of the same workhouse as herself, St. Giles's-in-the-Fields.

7366. Mr. *Maguire*.] Can you say, of your own knowledge, that in a month after the delivery of the woman Roach, she did not demand her discharge?—I have no doubt she did not. I cannot say she did not; but I believe she did not, because she would be allowed to take it as the other inmates of the workhouse are.

7367. You conceive that when she became chargeable she was liable to be removed?—No, I think not, unless she remained for some time afterwards. We should treat a person coming in two days before her confinement as a person irremovable by the provisions of the Act with reference to sick persons.

7368. If she remained for a month after her confinement, should you then consider her liable to be removed?—We should.

7369. Did you ever state, in a month after that woman's confinement, that she was to be removed?—No; I did not know anything of her for some six months afterwards; not until after the death of Mr. Cater, who attended to the in-door cases.

7370. Where is Mr. Eaton now?—He is somewhere down in Essex.

7371. This woman states that she asked Mr. Eaton for her discharge, and that he stated it was in your hands, and that she was to be removed?—So it would be at that time; for the time she speaks of would be when the order of removal was made, or about to be made.

7372. In what time after her entrance into the house was the order obtained?—Not for a year and a quarter.

7373. She states in her declaration, "I was kept in the workhouse 13 months altogether, 12 of which were entirely against my own inclination, as during that

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period I frequently demanded my discharge from the master, who upon every such occasion gave me the same answer as he did on my first demand, namely, that he had it not in his power to give me my discharge; that it was Mr. Hibbard who had to do with my case"?—That is untrue. Certainly up to July 1850, she could not have known me, for I never saw her; that was seven months after her admission.

7374. She says, "I was before Mr. Hibbard several times; I went upon every occasion on which I was sent for by him; I could not go to Mr. Hibbard of my own accord, unless he sent for me"?—She could.

7375. How could she?—The inmates frequently do; they have only to walk down the garden, and apply to the gate porter, and say they want to speak to me, and they are allowed to do so.

7376. Do you state that that woman never applied to you for her discharge?—I am certain she never did.

7377. You do not say that she did not apply to others?—I cannot say that, but I imagine that she would not have done so, or she would have gone.

7378. You state that your anxiety was to get rid of her?—That would not be until she had been in the house for nearly a year.

7379. Did you tell her on any of those interviews that you would send her to Ireland?—Yes.

7380. If she did not leave the house?—No, I do not believe I said that.

7381. What did you say to her?—That she should be sent back to Ireland.

7382. Did she upon none of those occasions evince a desire to leave the house?—No; I am perfectly certain that she never showed any inclination to leave the workhouse until we took steps to remove her to Ireland.

7383. Mr. Eaton is not accessible now, I suppose?—Yes, I believe he is; he holds some appointment in Essex.

7384. Was he the master?—He was the master at that time.

Veneris, 21° *die Julii*, 1854.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

Mr. Baines.	Mr. John Ball.
Sir Benjamin Hall.	Mr. Maguire.
Mr. Alexander Hastie.	Mr. Stirling.
Colonel Blair.	Mr. Archibald Hastie.
Mr. G. A. Hamilton.	Mr. Ingham.
Sir Robert Ferguson.	

The RIGHT HON. MATTHEW TALBOT BAINES, IN THE CHAIR.

George Alexander Hamilton, Esq., a Member of the Committee; Examined.

G. A. Hamilton, Esq., M.P.
21 July 1854.

7385. *Chairman.*] HAVE you any correspondence which you wish to bring before the Committee?—By the permission of the Committee, I communicated to Colonel Knox the substance of the evidence given by Mr. Carr, in reference to the pauper, James Gormally, in No. 5549, who is stated to have been sent from Ballinrobe to England, and I have received from Colonel Knox the statement which I have now to submit to the Committee. He states, "James Gormally, aged 15, according to the register, was discharged from the workhouse April 20, 1854; he had been admitted only three weeks previously; he got employment in this town after his discharge. About the middle of last June he applied to me in the street (and not in the workhouse as he alleges), to give him some assistance to take him to England; I ascertained that before he had re-entered the workhouse on the 27th March 1854, after an absence of 18 months, he had only just returned from Cork, where he had followed the 9th regiment of foot from this town; I considered him able to earn his livelihood." He proceeds to say, "Mr. Tighe informs me that he gave a small sum to the boy some time after he was discharged

discharged from the workhouse; I have never known the Board of Guardians send a pauper to England, but I have myself, as a private individual, frequently given assistance to poor people, to enable them to go to Belfast, Dublin, England or America, in fact to any place where they might be able to earn their bread."

G. A. Hamilton, Esq., M. P.

21 July 1854.

Mr. *James Dore,* called in; and Examined.

Mr. J. Dore.

7386. *Chairman.*] ARE you connected with the administration of the Poor-law in the parish of St. James, Westminster?—I am.

7387. What office do you hold?—Assistant to the overseer.

7388. Have you anything to do, by virtue of your office, with the removal of the Irish paupers who become chargeable?—I direct their removal.

7389. Do you investigate each case yourself?—I do not.

7390. Whose duty is that?—The junior messenger's duty.

7391. He reports to you with respect to each case?—Yes.

7392. Do you submit the case to the governors of the poor, or to a committee?—No.

7393. It is left to you?—It is left to my discretion.

7394. Do you bring the case before the magistrates if you think it a proper case?—It is the junior messenger's duty.

7395. Do you go before the magistrates?—I do not.

7396. What is the particular part which you have to take in it?—I take their examination and direct the messenger to get the parties sworn.

7397. Is that the same person who has investigated the case in the first instance?—It is.

7398. He takes it before the magistrates?—He does.

7399. What magistrates do they go to?—To Marlborough-street Police-court, either to Mr. Bingham or Mr. Hardwick.

7400. One of the stipendiary magistrates?—Yes.

7401. The proceeding is in open court there?—Yes.

7402. Can you give the Committee an account of the number of Irish removals which have been effected by your parish for some time past?—I think I can; I think there will be some discrepancy between the statement which I make to-day, and the Return made to the House of Commons as to the number. I do not know how that mistake has happened, or whether we had better have the Return made again.

7403. Do you wish to draw the attention of the Committee to a return which has been made upon the subject of the Irish poor removed from your parish?—If any comparison should be made the numbers will not agree.

7404. What explanation do you wish to give of that?—I can only say, that in going over the books I do not make the numbers agree exactly with the return which was sent in.

7405. When was that return sent in?—About six weeks or two months ago.

7406. What is the discrepancy; is it any material discrepancy?—No; in the year 1849 I see the return has the number 81, and I make it 67. In 1850 the return has 41, and I make it 43. In 1851 we agree. In 1852 the return has 14, and I make it 18. In 1853 we agree. Last year, to March 1854, the return gives it as 24, and I make it 40.

7407. Can you account for those discrepancies?—I cannot.

7408. Had you the preparation of that return?—I had not.

7409. Have you satisfied yourself that the figures which you have now given to the Committee are correct?—It is a hasty return; I only mention it now in case any question arises.

7410. Are you satisfied that the figures which you are now giving to the Committee represent the true state of things?—To the best of my belief; this is a hasty return which I have taken, and I do not wish the two statements to appear to differ without some explanation.

7411. That which you now give is a hasty return?—Yes.

7412. Without asking you the precise numbers, I wish to know from you whether you can give the Committee an account of the numbers of the Irish paupers altogether whom you have had in your parish for some years past?—Yes; I can only give you the admissions into the house; I am not prepared with the out-door cases, as we do not keep any distinct account of the Irish cases. The Irish cases which I have taken out are what we call the unsettled Irish;

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they are not Irish who would have a claim upon us, I make that distinction; they are persons who have no settlement in the parish, or claim whatever.

7413. Neither settlement nor irremovability?—They have no settlement; I am not prepared to say how many of these are irremovable.

7414. Will you give us the figures?—I begin from 1845 to 1846; 136 were admitted into the house in that year.

7415. These are Irish non-settled?—Yes; in the following year 211; the next 354; the next 368; the next 284; the next 220; the next 188; then 213 and 233. I have also taken out the total admissions during those years, including all classes, English, Irish, Scotch, and others.

7416. In the workhouse?—Yes.

7417. Will you give them?—In 1845 there were 696 admitted; in 1846, 815; in 1847, 957; in 1848, 1338; in 1849, 1,365; in 1850, 1,076; in 1851, 955; in 1852, 830; in 1853, 905. I do not seem to have got the last year.

7418. Have you formed an opinion as to a suggestion which has been made here, that you might properly do away altogether with the power of removing the Irish compulsorily?—I should be sorry if that was carried out.

7419. Upon what ground do you object to it?—I think it would throw a vast additional expense on the ratepayers.

7420. Is it upon the single ground of expense that you would object to it?—Yes; in some parts of our parish there are common lodging-houses, and the Irish congregate there in great numbers, as many as eight or nine or ten in a room; after a few hours' residence they very frequently apply to the workhouse for relief.

7421. What is the operation of the present law?—On their becoming chargeable they are liable to be removed to Ireland.

7422. Do you find that a number of them withdrew their claim, when you threaten them with that?—A vast number refuse to go; the numbers which I have given you are not one-third of the applicants.

7423. Then what becomes of them?—We hear no more of them; they get their living, or they go somewhere else, into other parishes.

7424. Do you conceive that your workhouse, of itself, would be a sufficient test to check Irish pauperism in your parish?—I do not.

7425. Do you know anything yourself how far your system is alike or different from the system of relief which the paupers have in Ireland?—I am not aware that there is any difference.

7426. You do not know the Irish system perhaps at all?—No.

7427. Will you state the number of the Irish poor whom you have removed under this law for some years past?—I have them here as adults and children. The total in the year ending 1846 would be 43 Irish, 13 Scotch, making 56, at an expense of 81 *l.* 13 *s.* 10 *d.* In 1847 we passed very few indeed, only nine Irish and no Scotch, at an expense of 19 *l.* 11 *s.* 6 *d.* In 1848, 67 Irish and one Scotch, making the total 68, at an expense of 151 *l.* 19 *s.* 2 *d.* In 1849, Irish 51, Scotch 16, total 67, at an expense of 135 *l.* 10 *s.* 4 *d.* In 1850, Irish 37, Scotch 6, total 43, at an expense of 95 *l.* 12 *s.* In 1851, Irish 18, Scotch 3, total 21, at an expense of 49 *l.* 16 *s.* 8 *d.* In 1852, 17 Irish, 1 Scotch, total 18, at an expense of 26 *l.* 11 *s.* 2 *d.* In 1853, no Scotch, 37 Irish, at an expense of 43 *l.* 18 *s.* 10 *d.*; and up to Lady-day last, 33 Irish, 7 Scotch, total 40, at an expense of 67 *l.* 6 *s.* 4 *d.*

7428. When you speak of expense, does that mean the expense of the actual removal?—Yes; some years back we recovered our expenses, as you are aware I dare say, from the county. Now these expenses fall entirely upon the rates of the parish, and we have no return.

7429. To whom do you send the paupers when the order for removal is made?—Since the Middlesex magistrates have made no order, we have employed a person of the name of Frost to pass them.

7430. Does he live in Wapping?—Yes, in High-street, Wapping.

7431. Do you contract with him?—Yes; his prices were considerably lower than the previous contractor, Mr. Baker; when we made this alteration, Mr. Baker's charges were nearly double.

7432. When were they double?—About 1845, I think.

7433. Do you mean double what they are now?—Yes.

7434. How long has Mr. Frost acted in this capacity for you?—Five years, I think.

7435. When an order is made the pauper is put into the hands of Mr. Frost, I suppose?—Yes; the junior messenger takes the pauper and the order to Mr. Frost, who goes with him, or sends one of his servants to Ireland with him.

7436. Do you know whether it is his uniform practice to go with them himself, or to send somebody with them?—This is his statement to us.

7437. To the Irish port?—Yes. He takes them before a magistrate, and a declaration is signed there that the parties are delivered over to some authority in Ireland.

7438. Do you say that he takes them before a magistrate in Ireland?—He applies for a declaration. This is his statement; "My plan is to receive, and board and lodge them, at my own house, until the steamboat leaves, and then to accompany them to the port of destination, and supply them with all things needful by the way (or where, from any cause, I may be prevented going with them myself, to send a trusty person in my place), and on returning, either to bring back a declaration of due delivery made before the mayor of the port or place, or to make one before the lord mayor or a country magistrate, at the option of my employers."

7439. When did he give you that account?—There is no date to it, but I should think it was about five years ago.

7440. That was his course of proceeding at that time?—I see it was seven years ago, and that has been the practice up to the present time; there has not been any alteration.

7441. That is, as far as you know?—Yes.

7442. The practice, as far as you are concerned, is what you have now described, and you have no reason to believe that there has been an alteration of Mr. Frost's practice?—I am not aware of it; we have repeatedly asked him whether there has been an alteration, and he tells us no. It was not long ago that I had occasion to trouble him upon a case in which Mr. Hardwick, the police magistrate, sent for me respecting a person named Mahoney; she was passed over to Ireland, and returned back almost immediately with her child, and she made a statement to Mr. Hardwick that the mayor of Dublin or Cork had paid her expences back to England. Mr. Hardwick was very desirous of having some information upon that point, whether it was true or not. We enquired through Mr. Frost, but we could make nothing of it; we could not find that that was the case.

7443. Do you know anything of any other cases of returns after removal?—Several.

7444. Have those happened lately?—Within the last twelve months we had a large family named Dacey, that we passed over, and who returned very shortly afterwards.

7445. Within what time?—They were seen in our parish, I think within two months after they had been sent.

7446. Had you any communication with them to know how it was they came back?—No.

7447. Have you in any of the cases had any communication with the paupers?—Only in the case of the woman Mahoney, my attention having been directed to it by the magistrate.

7448. In no other have you heard from them the circumstances under which they came back?—No, and we have not had occasion in my time to carry out the Vagrant Act, in applying for the committal of any person on application for relief, although it is a very common thing for paupers to apply after being removed to their parishes.

7449. Have you considered how far the present law is capable, in any respect, of improvement; have you any suggestions to make to the Committee upon that point; you being a gentleman of experience in the administration of the Poor-law, we shall be glad to hear any suggestions from you?—I have none.

7450. You are of opinion, it seems, that the power of removal cannot be safely taken away; do you think that the law can be in any way made to operate less harshly respecting the pauper?—I think that you have thrown the same protection over the Irish pauper as you have over the English pauper; they have exactly similar treatment.

7451. You mean that they are in the same position as to five years' residence?—Yes.

7452. Have your parish uniformly acted upon that view?—Yes; when it

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first became known, I held that the Irish poor were not removable. I had occasion to see Mr. Bingham and Mr. Hardwick upon the matter, and it was their opinion that the Irish were not removable if they had resided for five years in the parish; we have acted upon that view ever since.

7453. There is one point in which, at present, you are aware that the practice in dealing with an English pauper is different from that in dealing with an Irish or Scotch pauper, as to giving notice to the parties to whom he is going, that he is about to be removed?—Yes.

7454. What do you say about that; would it be practicable?—I think not, the distance being so great; the difficulty also would be very great to search out the settlement in Ireland.

7455. They have not settlements in Ireland; but would you think it a right thing before removing an Irish pauper to send a notice that he was about to be removed, as you do at present in the case of an English pauper. When you are intending to remove an English pauper, you send to the parish to which you intend to remove him, a copy of the deposition, saying that unless an appeal is entered he will be removed within a certain time. In your opinion, can anything of that kind be introduced with respect to the Irish?—I think it would lead to very great litigation if it was done.

7456. What do you think of a suggestion which has been made here, that it would be expedient to send somebody with the pauper all the way to the union workhouse, which was his ultimate destination, instead of leaving him in the Irish port?—The only objection that I have to that is the amount of expense. I could have no other objection.

7457. At present you are aware that when you remove an Englishman from the parish of St. James, we will say to Newcastle-on-Tyne, you have, in the first place, to give a notice that the order of removal is made, and then your officer takes him all the way to Newcastle and delivers him at the workhouse of Newcastle, or to some Poor-law officer there?—Yes.

7458. In your opinion would it be practicable to introduce any system like that with regard to the Irish pauper?—I am not sufficiently acquainted with the Irish law to say whether or not the same facilities exist in Ireland as in England, to deliver over paupers. In England we may either deliver to the workhouse or to the relieving officer or to the overseer, I believe; therefore we may take our choice.

7459. To some Poor-law officer?—Yes; if you had to go 40, or 50, or 100 miles over the country, and no conveyance was to be got unless you hired a horse or a cart, I think the difficulty would be very great, and also the expense and the officer's time would be taken up very materially.

7460. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What is your exact duty; you spoke of directing the passing of the Irish paupers?—To take the examination of the paupers applying for relief, and to relieve the poor.

7461. Do you mean the examination of such persons as are brought to you by the junior messenger?—No; all persons applying for relief.

7462. Do you merely take down their statement?—I take down their statement, and the messenger has to take the party before a magistrate, and have him sworn to that statement which he has made.

7463. Are the paupers always passed by orders of removal?—Always.

7464. Do you send them upon their own application?—I do not think we have sent above two in the whole of my time.

7465. *Chairman.*] That would also be by order of removal, I suppose?—We have in England what are called friendly orders; one relieving officer writes a letter to another, if it is a clear case; he does not put the other parish to the expense of obtaining an order of removal, but accepts the pauper at once.

7466. You mean from parish to parish in England?—Yes.

7467. Do you send Irish people back at the expense of your poor-rates to Ireland without an order of removal?—No.

7468. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] You spoke of the Irish congregating very much in common lodging-houses?—Yes.

7469. What steps are taken now to regulate those common lodging-houses?—That is in the hands of the police.

7470. Have they taken any steps to regulate them?—I believe so. I do not know.

7471. That does not come before you?—It does not.

7472. What

7472. What workhouse accommodation have you?—For something like 800 or 900.

7473. And how many have you generally in the workhouse?—At present we have about 500.

7474. Are there many of those Irish?—I should say about one-fourth of the total number.

7475. Are those removable or irremovable?—A great many are irremovable from various causes, some from residence, and others from sickness.

7476. In stating the numbers which you have passed in the different years, you seem to have passed very few in the year 1846-7?—Yes; I called the attention of the Committee to it; we only passed nine in that year.

7477. Can you account for that?—I cannot tell why we passed so small a number; in the year before and the year after, the numbers were larger, namely, 56 and 68.

7478. In what year was the difference made of passing them at the cost of the union or parish, instead of the cost of the county?—That was in 1845. The only favoured parish that I am aware of in London, is St. Martin's; they happen to be under the number given in the Act of 30,000 persons, and their expenses, I believe, are paid back again to them by the county. Some years back they passed a vast number of Irish in consequence of their recovering back their expenses from the county.

7479. You mentioned a Dacey family that you said had returned within a short time; do you remember to what port they were sent?—I do not.

7480. To what port do you generally send?—Cork or Dublin. The chief of our people are sent to Cork and Dublin; some few to Limerick.

7481. Would there be any difficulty in sending a copy of the depositions previously to the union to which these persons say that they belong in Ireland, so as to give them notice that such a family claims to belong to them?—The only difficulty I see is the expense and litigation to which it might lead. We are obliged to take the statements of these persons, without any inquiry as to where they were born; it is not possible to be within our knowledge where they were born; we are obliged to take their statements without making any inquiry. That is not the case with an English pauper; we can get his statement corroborated by other evidence.

7482. The complaint is, that these people are very often passed to different parts of Ireland to which they do not really belong?—Our practice is to take the nearest port to where they were born; but, under the Act of Parliament, if they desire to be landed anywhere else, we do it, so that we accommodate them as much as we possibly can.

7483. Supposing you first sent to the place to which the pauper says he belongs, giving them notice that such a person has made the following deposition, transmitting to them a copy of the deposition, and giving them the power of appealing to the Poor-law Board here, do you think that that would lead to any great expense?—They have power to appeal now under the Act of Parliament if they think proper.

7484. Are you not aware that this power of appeal has become perfectly nugatory?—We have never had any appeal, or any complaint of the way in which we have removed the poor.

7485. Have you ever had any inquiry made about it?—None; I am not aware of any inquiry.

7486. Do you keep any copy of these depositions in case of any complaint being made?—Yes; a copy of the examination as given in the Act of Parliament.

7487. *Chairman.*] That is the form?—Yes.

7488. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] Do you keep a copy of each particular person's statement?—That is the statement; all that is required to be done is to put in the place of birth; we keep a duplicate.

7489. Do you think yourself called upon to return that to the Poor-law Board if they ask for an explanation about the removal?—We should give a copy of it.

7490. Should you think yourself required so to do?—If we were asked for it we should; we do not consider that we are required to do it.

7491. Mr. *Maguire.*] At what time did you obtain the opinion as to the non-removability of the Irish?—Within 12 months after the passing of the Act of Parliament; there was a difficulty about it at first to explain the meaning.

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7492. You are willing, I take it, from what you say, to give the same protection to the Irish as to the English?—Just the same.

7493. If the law of removal were repealed so far as the English are regarded, would it be advantageous to retain it so far as the Irish are regarded?—Just the same.

7494. If the power of removal from parish to parish in England were done away with, would you think it fair, according to the principles which you have stated, to retain the power of removal to Ireland?—I should not think it fair to do away with the power of removal; I should think it very unfair to the rate-payer.

7495. A proposal was made some short time since to do away with the power of removal from parish to parish in England?—Yes.

7496. Would you still desire to retain it so far as the people of Ireland were regarded?—Yes.

7497. How do you reconcile that with affording the same protection to the Irish as to the English?—As it is at present, we make no difference.

7498. If the English law was altered, would you retain the Irish law as it is?—That is a question for you, gentlemen, not for me.

7499. Would you not think it unfair to retain it?—They are a different class of poor to the English poor; they come over in such large numbers, and they are completely destitute. We have a family now in the house of the name of Bowen, that, to the best of my recollection, has been there for the last 18 months. They had not been long in England before they became a charge to us, and they have been remaining with us ever since, unable to be removed on account of illness; it is a large family. These paupers were admitted into the workhouse on the 24th January 1851, and remained until 2d October following, and again admitted on 15th November 1851, and have remained to the present time.

7500. Sir *B. Hall.*] Do you believe that the power of removal which you have now is a great check upon the demands made by the Irish paupers on the parish of St. James's?—I think it is; knowing that we have the power to remove them, it has a tendency to prevent them applying, and they would rather leave the workhouse than go back again in the majority of cases.

7501. Do you hear an opinion of that kind expressed by the paupers, that they are very much disinclined to go back to their own country?—Yes.

7502. Do they give you any reasons?—They state that the diet of the workhouses there is not sufficient for their support.

7503. Do you hear that frequently from the paupers, that the diet which is given in the Irish workhouses is insufficient for their support?—Yes, I have frequently heard it.

7504. And that they prefer the English workhouses?—Yes.

7505. Is the expense of the maintenance of the Irish paupers in the parish of St. James's very great in comparison to the expense of maintaining the English paupers?—I cannot say.

7506. What proportion do you consider that the expense of the maintenance of Irish paupers bears to the expense of English paupers?—I can state that the Irish are about a fourth or fifth of the whole number of inmates of St. James's workhouse.

7507. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What proportion does it bear on the out-door relief?—About the same, I should think, but I am not prepared with any statement; we have a great number of Irish poor.

7508. Mr. *Ingham.*] Have you any means of knowing what proportion the working people of the Irish population bear to those of the English; those who do the roughest work?—The great majority of them are labourers.

7509. The greatest majority of those whose families come before you for relief are Irish labourers?—Yes; they come over to this country for that purpose; a great many are what they term costermongers; they get their living by selling things about the streets; they are also labourers, but cannot find employment as labourers, consequently they turn their hands to that mode of living.

7510. Do you know what branch of labour it is that the Irish are chiefly employed in?—As bricklayers' labourers, I should say.

7511. Have you any means of knowing in what proportion the natives of the two countries stand to each other in respect of those branches of hard and rather repulsive labour?—We have very few English labourers indeed who take that work which the Irish take.

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7512. Then the Irish almost exclusively supply what is required to carry on those branches of labour?—Yes.

7513. And they form the proportion of one-fifth of the inmates of your workhouse?—Yes.

7514. I suppose the expense for each is just the same?—Yes; we make no difference in their diet.

7515. You mentioned one family that had been there 18 months?—Yes.

7516. Under what circumstances?—Illness is the cause of it; the family consists of a man, his wife, and four children, I think.

7517. Do you know the previous history of those people; whether they had recently come from Ireland, or whether they had been overtaken by illness in the course of being here?—They had not been long from Ireland. They had landed at some port and had walked up to London, and in a short time fell ill, and we were obliged to take them in.

7518. Have you any means of knowing whether they fell ill in consequence of anything that occurred to them in England, or whether they came over in a weakly state?—I should say they came over healthy.

7519. Do you remember what was the nature of the illness?—Consumption.

7520. Consumption attacking the head of the family and incapacitating the children from being supported?—Yes; that prevents our removing the children.

7521. Sir *B. Hall.*] Are there many cases of women and children coming into the workhouse who have been deserted by their husbands and fathers?—Yes, we have several now in the workhouse whose husbands are abroad, some having gone to America and left their families behind them.

7522. *Chairman.*] You are speaking of Irish?—Yes.

7523. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What steps do you take to test the truth of that story?—Inquiry is made in the neighbourhood where they came from.

7524. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do you mean to represent that they have deserted them for ever, or that the husbands have merely gone to America before them?—I do not mean that. It may happen that the husbands are over there trying to accumulate a fund to send for their families over to them.

7525. I believe it is very common that they do accumulate funds, and that they send over for them?—Yes; we have assisted them occasionally under those circumstances.

Mr. *William Cornwell*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Cornwell.*

7526. *Chairman.*] TO what parish or union do you belong?—The parish of Bermondsey, in Surrey.

7527. Is that under a local Act?—It has a local Act.

7528. It has a Board of Guardians elected, I believe, under an order of the Poor-law Board?—Yes.

7529. What is your office?—Assistant clerk to the guardians.

7530. How long have you held it?—I have held the appointment since 1849.

7531. Have you turned your attention to the subject of the inquiries of this Committee, namely, the operation of the present law relative to the removal of Irish paupers?—I have not, as regards the Irish.

7532. Have you had the management of that branch of the Poor-law business?—I have.

7533. They have passed through your hands?—Yes.

7534. Can you give the Committee an account of the number of removals of the Irish poor from the parish of Bermondsey for the last few years?—The numbers removed from the parish of Bermondsey were; in 1849, 53 persons; 1850, 12; in 1851, 10; in 1852, 25; in 1853, 16; in the present year, 29.

7535. Have you been in the habit of removing all whom you might legally remove?—No.

7536. What is the principle upon which you go?—On a person applying for relief, he is asked, "Where do you belong to?" If he says "Ireland," he is asked, "Are you desirous of going there?" Should he say "No," we say, "It is our duty to pass you to Ireland," and then perhaps we see no more of him. The practice of the Board is, in most cases of non-settled poor, to order them into the house. As soon as they come into the house it is the duty of the officer to pass them to Ireland.

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7537. Do you find that they do, in many cases, come into the house?—No, not many; they evidently do not like being passed to Ireland.

7538. I understand you to say that you find that the threat of removal has the effect of relieving you, at all events, from any further application?—Yes.

7539. Can you give the Committee any further information with regard to the operation of the present law of removal?—I think, if the removal was dispensed with, we should have a large increase of Irish.

7540. Will you state your ground for coming to that conclusion?—It is in consequence of the number of persons now applying for relief, and when informed they must be removed, ceasing to be chargeable. Supposing they could have relief immediately, and be maintained in the workhouse of the parish without the possibility of removal, I have no doubt the application for relief would increase tenfold.

7541. Have you a great many Irish in the parish?—We have.

7542. How are they chiefly employed?—In fellmongers' and tanners' yards.

7543. Are they chiefly employed in some industrial way?—Yes, mostly in that capacity; some are employed in the market gardens and glue factories.

7544. Do you think that your workhouse of itself would be a sufficient test for the destitution of the Irish?—Certainly not.

7545. Why do you think so?—My opinion is, that as soon as the Irish get comfortably situated in a workhouse, there they will remain.

7546. But would they think your workhouse comfortable?—Quite so.

7547. Have you heard them express that opinion?—Yes.

7548. What have they said?—They prefer the workhouse to being passed to Ireland. There are now several in the workhouse under the five years' residence enactment; and there they, in all probability will remain.

7549. Those are people whom you cannot pass?—Yes; it has never been settled whether the Act affects the Irish; but the opinion generally is, that it applies to the Irish as well as the English.

7550. Of about what age or class are those people?—Between the ages of 30 and 70.

7551. Have you learnt from them whether they prefer or not your system of treatment in the workhouse to that in Ireland?—No, I have not asked that question; but they appear very comfortable, and when they are called down from their wards to be passed to Ireland, they say, "No, we will not go; we will leave the house." That is the only criterion I have to guide me.

7552. You have spoken of the Five Years' Act; have you all along given the Irish the benefit of that Act?—No, I have not.

7553. You were under a mistake, were you?—I presume so; but my opinion is still, that the Act does not affect the Irish.

7554. I hope that is not your practice now, since the Court of Queen's Bench have laid down the other rule?—No; there is a case which was argued in the Court of Queen's Bench, which I think, in all probability, applies to the Irish.

7555. Assuming that the Irish are removed, do you think that that period of five years, which is necessary in order to give them irremovability under the present law, might be lessened to four years, or three years, or two years, so as to give you substantially the same protection?—I think the five years' residence is at present a great injury to metropolitan parishes.

7556. What is your reason for saying that?—In consequence of the increase of the number of the irremovable poor, and in parishes, such as Bermondsey, having a population of 50,000 inhabitants, it increases daily upon us.

7557. Then you mean that that period could not be abridged without increasing that evil?—Yes.

7558. That is your opinion?—It is.

7559. Are you of opinion, then, that that is not a course which could be justly recommended to the Legislature?—Certainly.

7560. Is there any further information, or any further suggestion with regard to the subject of our present inquiry, which you are desirous of giving?—No, I think not on the Irish question of removal.

7561. Mr. *Ingham.*] You say that your population is 50,000?—It is.

7562. What is the number of inmates of your workhouse?—There is now in the workhouse about 546.

7563. To how many do you give out-door relief?—About 861.

7564. Something

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7564. Something like 1,600 or 1,700 is the total amount of paupers?—Not so many now; they may average that number in the winter months.

7565. *Chairman.*] What number of inmates will your workhouse hold?—It is estimated to hold 900; but, according to the classification at the present moment, I do not think that above 700 could be accommodated according to the regulations of the Poor-law Board.

7566. Sir *B. Hall.*] Out of the 546 receiving relief in-doors, and out of the 1,100 receiving relief out of doors, what proportion do the Irish paupers bear to the English?—That I do not know.

7567. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are the Irish generally partial to the workhouse?—Yes; when they get into the workhouse they are desirous of remaining there; the female, I think, more than the male.

7568. Not the able-bodied?—No, we have not many able-bodied at present chargeable to the parish.

7569. Do you find the able-bodied Irish who are vigorous and healthy rather anxious to get employment?—Yes.

7570. And that they endeavour to support themselves if they have the opportunity?—Yes.

7571. Then it is not likely that the head of a family would prefer remaining in the workhouse to seeking his livelihood outside?—No; but, generally speaking, there are very many desertions in the case of Irish families, more especially of late years.

7572. What do you mean by desertions?—Going to America or Australia; we have several families now in the workhouse in consequence of the head of the family emigrating.

7573. Has it happened, to your knowledge, that an Irish person so deserting his wife, as you say, has sent her money?—Yes, to my knowledge, once or twice that has been done.

7574. Is not such a thing very likely to happen?—I have known of two or three.

7575. Recently?—Yes.

7576. I suppose you have heard that Irish people who have gone from Ireland to America have sent over large sums of money for the purpose of enabling their relatives to join them?—I have heard of their sending money to their friends.

7577. Then what may look like a desertion in the first instance may not be intentionally so, or eventually so?—No, it may not be so certainly, but it does affect the parishes in that way; we find that parishes are affected by it either one way or the other, because we very seldom get the truth from them as to the facts of the case.

7578. *Chairman.*] Have you made that observation with regard to the Irish examinations?—Yes.

7579. Have you known anything of any returns after they have been removed; have you seen that?—I have not in the parish of Bermondsey.

Mr. *William Hicks,* called in; and Examined.

Mr. *W. Hicks.*

7580. *Chairman.*] TO what parish do you belong?—St. Mary, Islington.

7581. Have you an office in the administration of the Poor-law there?—I have.

7582. What is your office?—Relieving Officer now; I was formerly Clerk to the Clerk of the Board.

7583. How long have you been connected with the administration of the Poor-law in St. Mary, Islington?—Twenty-two years.

7584. Have you many Irish in the parish of St. Mary, Islington?—We have not a great number; the numbers passed have not been so great within the last four or five years as they were formerly.

7585. Have you any statement of the numbers passed?—I have not, for I did not quite understand that the subject was relative to the Irish exclusively; I thought it was the general subject.

7586. The inquiry is into the Law of Removal of Irish and Scotch paupers from England?—I have not the numbers; I made a return to the Poor Law Board of the numbers, which was called for by an order of this House.

7587. And that has been printed, I believe, as a Parliamentary paper?—I expect so.

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7588. You say that generally the number of Irish poor has not increased lately?—During the period over which that return extends it is not so great as previously.

7589. When was it at its greatest?—In 1848 and 1847, and 1846; but in 1847 and 1848 particularly. That Return, if I recollect rightly, began in 1849, and went down to 1853.

7590. How is it now as compared with 1850 and 1851?—Somewhere about the same; I think the last year was somewhat over 1850 and 1851.

7591. Have you formed an opinion as to how far it would be expedient to do away with the power of removal of Irish paupers?—From my experience, I should say that it would be very detrimental to the interests of all large parishes, particularly in the metropolis of London.

7592. Will you state your reasons for coming to that conclusion?—Because of the numbers that we should otherwise have, if it were not for the power of removing them back.

7593. Then are you of opinion that that operates as a protection?—Yes.

7594. Would not the workhouse do it of itself?—No.

7595. You feel quite satisfied of that?—Quite satisfied. I had an illustration of it this very morning.

7596. Will you mention it?—Sometimes persons apply who have very recently come over, able-bodied people; we think that we should not incur the expense of sending them back; we offer to take them into the house with the view of seeing whether the house will have its ordinary effect with able-bodied people, and relieve us of their future support. I got an order for the removal of a young woman, about 22 or 23, this morning, who had only been over 10 weeks; this is one instance out of many that do occur. I took her into the house, I suppose 10 days ago, without the intention of removing her home, and told her so, thinking that it possibly might have the effect of her going and getting her own livelihood; she was perfectly capable of doing so; but she has quietly settled down there; and I thought this morning the time had arrived when we should get an order for her removal. That is one instance out of many of the kind which have come under my notice.

7597. Are you satisfied that any system which you could adopt in your workhouse, consistently with public opinion, would be a sufficient test of itself as regards the Irish?—I believe not.

7598–99. Do you mean by that answer to express doubt, or that you are satisfied in your own mind that it would not?—I am satisfied in my own mind that it would not.

7600. Have you had any means, either from their statements, or in any other way, of comparing the system of relief to the poor in Ireland with that which you have in this country, as to whether it is more or less strict?—From the statements which I have had from them, I have been told that it is very much better in this country than in Ireland.

7601. You have heard that from the paupers?—Yes.

7602. In what respect have they said that it is better?—There was one case of a woman who was sent home, and she returned; I think it was in this year or the end of last year; on asking her why she had done so, she said that she could not live there upon what was provided for her in the union house, and that she was obliged to come back.

7603. Have you known many cases of persons returning who have once been removed?—Not many.

7604. Yours is a single parish, I believe, under a local Act?—Yes; the trustees having the management of the affairs of the whole of the parish, the poor, and other things as well.

7605. Have you given the Irish the benefit of the construction of the Irremovable Act, so as to put them on the same footing as the English?—Yes.

7606. Have you done that constantly?—Yes, both in doors and out.

7607. You do not make any difference in their treatment?—If I said that, it would not be strictly correct; we do make some difference, inasmuch as we do not profess to place them on the out-door relief list generally speaking, unless it is from very lengthened residence and age, or infirmity, or the case of a widow who is irremovable, simply from the death of the husband in the parish, then we do.

7608. When you have two in the workhouse, an English and an Irish pauper, do

do you make any difference in their treatment in the workhouse?—None whatever.

7609. It has been suggested here, that you might make some distinction between the Irish and the English, so as to make the treatment of the Irish a good deal stricter than that of the English in the workhouse; would that be practicable?—I am inclined to think not; in one establishment I think that that could not be carried out.

7610. Have you formed an opinion as to how far you might alter the Irremovable Act of five years, so as to take a less period than five years; would a less period do for the same purpose; four years, or three?—I think not.

7611. Can you suggest to this Committee any amendment or improvement in any way of the present law, regulating the removal of the Irish, or their right to irremovability?—No, I am not prepared to make any suggestion of that kind.

7612. You have had great experience as a Poor-law officer, and we should have been glad if you could have furnished us with any suggestions. Have you any further information to give us relating to the subject of our present inquiry?—No, I have nothing that I know of.

7613. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] What is the system in your workhouse, as to employment; how, for instance, was that young woman employed during the 10 days she was in the workhouse?—In the laundry, I believe; I have nothing of course to do with the superintendence of the labour, but that is the employment of the able-bodied young women.

7614. She had no employment excepting the laundry?—For females there is needlework, what is called slop-work.

7615. Did she seem to be a person who had been in that class to have learnt needlework?—I believe she has been in the laundry, and, therefore, as to her capabilities for needlework I am not aware.

7616. Are you aware that the dietary in the Irish unions is fixed, not by the Board of Guardians, but the Poor Law Commissioners?—I am not; I know nothing about the dietary there, only in the manner which I have described, namely, hearsay from these people.

7617. If you were aware that it was so fixed, would it make any difference in your belief of their statement, that it was so very different?—Certainly it would; if I knew what it was, and if I knew that it was fixed by the Poor Law Commissioners.

7618. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are you in a position to say what is the feeling of your Board of Guardians and Trustees as to the abolition of the present law?—The feeling of the Board is that it would be highly detrimental to the interests of the parish.

7619. I suppose that feeling is very strong?—Very strong indeed.

Mr. *Valentine Thomas Coombes,* called in; and Examined.

7620. *Chairman.*] WITH what Metropolitan Parish are you connected?—The parish of St. George in the East.

7621. What office do you hold there?—Second Relieving Officer.

7622. Is that a parish where you have a considerable number of Irish poor?—A great number.

7623. Can you state to the Committee the number of Irish poor whom you have relieved within the last few years in St. George's in the East?—That is impossible without having the books with me.

7624. You have not prepared any table of that?—No.

7625. Have you prepared any information for this Committee relative to the subject of the removal of the Irish poor?—I have not prepared any table; I have with me a few returns which were made by me some short period ago; in the year 1848, for instance.

7626. What returns are those which you hold in your hand?—This is a return of the number of mendicant poor relieved in 1848, generally.

7627. Relieved out of the parish rates?—Yes.

7628. Will you give us the total?—The total number relieved for nine months in 1848 was 17,000 and odd.

7629. Can you tell how many of those were Irish?—Out of that number 7,000 odd hundreds were Irish.

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7630. Have you any other table which you wish to put before the Committee?—Not pertaining to the Irish.

7631. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have you any more recent returns under that head?—I have not; not being aware of the exact nature of the inquiry, I have not prepared myself.

7632. *Chairman.*] Have you turned your attention to the subject of the removal of the Irish, poor with the view of qualifying yourself to give evidence?—I can state, without the least doubt, that the doing away with the power of removal to Ireland would greatly increase the number of our Irish poor.

7633. What is your reason for saying that?—Because, if the right of removal was done away with, we should be compelled to relieve them in some other way, either by out-door relief or by taking them into the workhouse. In the event of our not being allowed the right of removal, they would freely come into the workhouse, and there remain until they thought fit to leave.

7634. What makes you think that they would freely come into the workhouse?—Because they cordially accede to doing so now, but do not do so on account of our enforcing the right of removal.

7635. Then do you conceive that that right of removal is a valuable check at present?—Most undoubtedly.

7636. Do you think that your workhouse, of itself, would not do as a check?—Certainly not.

7637. Could it be made to do so by any practicable alteration?—Certainly not; we should require a house half as large again.

7638. Would it require a more strict system of treatment?—I do not see that we could apply a more strict system of treatment in our house.

7639. Have you a strict system already?—It is one of the old workhouses, and that species of subdivision which exists in union workhouses cannot be applied to ours.

7640. It does not admit of classification in the same way?—It does not, on account of the paucity of room.

7641. You have a great number of poor, I believe, at all times in your parish?—We have 1,000 and odd now in the house.

7642. Do you give the Irish the benefit of the Irremovable Act?—I have done so from the first, and that has greatly increased our number of poor.

7643. Could any alteration be made in that with advantage? I am sure you would be of opinion that the law ought not to be more harsh than is necessary for carrying out the public purpose of the law. Could you abridge the period of five years which is necessary to give irremovability, with advantage?—That period could not be abridged without inflicting a very considerable additional injury upon the parish; I should say upon all metropolitan parishes.

7644. Then are you of opinion that it ought not to take place?—That is my decided opinion, from the experience of the Five Years' Residence Act.

7645. Have you had any cases of Irish returning to your parish after being removed?—Very few.

7646. Have you any further information to give the Committee with regard to the operation of the present law, or any suggestions to make for its amendment?—I am not prepared to make any suggestions for its amendment; but I am most decidedly of opinion, that the doing away with the right of removal would inflict very serious injury upon the whole of the metropolitan parishes.

7647. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are the guardians of the same opinion?—They are; our guardians are not in the habit of acting very harshly towards the Irish poor, because it is not our practice immediately on their becoming chargeable to order their removal to Ireland. If, for instance, it is a mere temporary want of employment, the Board will give them relief for a fortnight or three weeks, or sometimes a month, but then at the end of that period, if they still wish to continue, means are taken to remove them.

7648. Do you find that giving of temporary relief very useful in my instances?—I have no doubt it has been useful in many instances; where it has arisen from mere casual want of employment it has been given.

7649. And therefore it would be a very harsh thing on the part of any Board of Guardians to send an industrious man, who is merely driven to temporary application, back to Ireland?—If he has a fair prospect of employment; but we find that there is a great disinclination, on the part of the Irish poor, to give up any modicum of relief, however small it may be; there is a strenuous attempt to obtain its continuance.

7650. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Do you find them more urgent in that respect than the English paupers?—Far more pertinacious; it is proverbial with the lower class of Irish.

7651. I suppose they look upon it as their right?—They seem to claim it as such.

7652. Are they quiet and docile when you have them in the house?—Pretty well; we do not have any great difficulty with them; I should observe that nearly one-third, if not quite one-third, of our inmates are Irish, speaking from casual observation.

7653. How does it happen, with the power of removal, that you have so many in the workhouse?—We have, I suppose, about 5,000 to 6,000 resident Irish; numbers of them are irremovable, on account of the Five Years Residence Act; others have got into decrepitude from age, and are taken into the workhouse. A great number of children are deserted; those children we cannot send to Ireland; they are of too tender an age for that, and consequently they remain with us, and our number of children has been greatly increased by that; I believe that we have a larger number of children than any other parish in London of the same population.

7654. What may be the Irish population in your parish?—I should say, from a rough guess, 5,000 to 6,000 resident.

7655. Has any account been taken from which you could form that idea?—No.

7656. It is merely a guess?—It is merely guessing.

7657. Mr. *Maguire.*] That is, 5,000 to 6,000 settled?—Resident.

7658. Non-removable?—That I cannot say.

7659. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] No Irish man or woman is removable unless that person comes to the parish for relief?—Certainly not.

7660. Therefore that does not apply to the 5,000 unless they have applied for relief?—Certainly not.

7661. Have those old Irish people whom you mention, who are in the workhouse, obtained a settlement, or is it merely the kindness and charity of the English guardians that keeps them there, because they are old and infirm?—Many of them are doubtless settled with us; they have acquired a settlement; others are with us on account of irremovability, but there are also many whom the guardians would not remove to Ireland, on account of their age, although they are removable.

7662. That arises from a kindly feeling on the part of the guardians?—Yes.

7663. In short, the whole of your experience in the position which you now are leads you to the conclusion, that the Irish paupers applying are generally dealt with with the same feeling towards their relief as any English pauper so applying?—There is little or no distinction made, I should say.

7664. Mr. *Maguire.*] What proportion do the removable in the workhouse bear to those who are non-removable?—I cannot state that; the number of removable as compared with the non-removable would be but small, no doubt.

7665. You are certain of that?—Yes; I should say it would be but small, and those would consist principally of the aged and infirm, and children.

7666. Mr. *Ingham.*] What is the population of your entire parish?—About 50,000, as nearly as possible.

7667. You say there are 6,000 resident Irish; do you know how many Irish paupers there are at present in your parish?—I cannot state that; I have stated that they form about one-third of the number in the workhouse; I may be beyond the number, but my impression is that it would amount to that; they are so numerous.

7668. Do they form a third of the total number, taking both out-door paupers and those in the workhouse?—I cannot state that with regard to the out-door; I should not think the numbers of the out-door would come near that.

7669. You say that of the number which you have in the house now, about one-third are Irish?—Yes.

7670. What proportion do the numbers receiving out-door relief constitute?—Not so great as that by any means.

7671. Adding the two together, you cannot tell what proportion the Irish who become chargeable for relief would bear?—It would be a very rough guess.

7672. *Chairman.*] The Irish population, as to the whole population, is about 1 in 10, as I understand you?—Yes; I conceive it to be about that.

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7673. Have you any notion what proportion of Irish paupers you have to the whole number of paupers in the union?—I understand the question, but I have no idea.

7674. Mr. *Ingham.*] What class of occupation do the 6,000 Irish that you have follow?—Labours at the docks, coalwhippers, and ballast-heavers.

7675. Then they are of that class of population from whom you would expect to find that cases requiring relief would arise?—Yes, I should say so.

7676. What is the ruling occupation of those persons who live by their industry in your parish?—That of labourers at the docks, and coalwhippers; what they call coal backers, that is, carrying the coal from the barge to the waggon; and ballast getting.

7677. Parties living by handy work?—Exactly so.

7678. Have you any great number of persons employed as sailors; a seafaring population?—A great many.

7679. Do you find that they become chargeable to the parish?—A great many of them do; but I must observe that there are not many Irish connected with the seafaring population.

7680. But are there many of the seafaring population who become chargeable to the port?—Yes.

7681. I thought that all the old sailors received Trinity money, to a great extent?—A great many of the men are away, and their families become chargeable.

7682. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Have you the means of producing before this Committee the exact amount of the inhabitants of the parish, and the exact amount of Irish inhabitants within the parish, and the amount of English receiving relief, and the amount of Irish receiving relief, both in the workhouse and out of the workhouse?—I might get the latter, but I do not see how I could arrive at the former; I do not see how I could arrive at the actual number of Irish residents in the parish.

7683. *Chairman.*] You seem to think that it is about 5,000?—That is my impression.

7684. As the Honourable Member for Paisley suggests, can you give us the number of Irish receiving relief in and out of the workhouse, and the total number of persons receiving relief in and out of the workhouse?—Without doubt I should be able to do that.

7685. You have already furnished us with the means of comparing the number of the Irish inmates of the workhouse with the total number of inmates of the workhouse?—Yes.

7686. Will you be so good as to furnish to me a statement of the total number receiving relief both in and out of the workhouse?—With pleasure; the number of Irish poor receiving relief in and out of the workhouse, compared with the gross number actually receiving relief.

7687. Mr. *Ingham.*] Can you tell at all how many individuals there are in your parish who pay to the poor-rate?—I cannot. I can furnish the Committee with it, and I will do so.

Mr. *James Rankley*, called in; and Examined.

Mr. *J. Rankley.*

7688. *Chairman.*] WHERE do you reside?—Three hundred and twenty-five, High-street, Wapping.

7689. What business or employment do you carry on?—The conveyance of the Irish and Scotch paupers.

7690. How long have you been engaged in that way?—About 15 years.

7691. During the whole time of the operation of the present Act you have been engaged in that employment?—Yes; Mr. Hartley, of the Dublin and Cork Steam Wharf, East Smithfield, for two years out of the time, conveyed them.

7692. We were told by a witness the other day that the business was first established by Mr. Baker?—Yes, Mr. Baker was the first one, I believe, who ever removed any Irish paupers under the Act of Parliament.

7693. Were you associated with Mr. Baker?—I was. I did it for Mr. Baker.

7694. You were his assistant?—I was.

7695. Are you that now?—No, I do it for it myself now, having received authority from Mr. Baker.

7696. How long have you done it for yourself?—About two years.

7697. Will you describe the nature of your establishment there?—It was formerly

formerly much larger than it is now. I have had as many as 250 in the place; but that has been merely perhaps for one night; there might be, upon the average, 50 during the week, and on the Wednesday, the day previous to their sailing, generally speaking, I have a greater number in; but I am speaking of 1849; that was the heaviest year in which they were sent home, and we passed in that year about 2,535 Irish, and 57 Scotch.

7698. Do you contract with the parishes?—Yes, since March 1851.

7699. With the metropolitan parishes?—Yes.

7700. With how many of them?—With the whole of the Middlesex parishes except Whitechapel Union; St. Luke's, Chelsea; St. James's, Westminster; St. John's, Wapping. The following is a list of the names of the parishes for which paupers are removed by me:—Bethnal Green; Brentford Union; Edmonton; Fulham Union; St. George's-in-the-East; St. John at Hackney; Hendon Union; Holborn Union; St. Mary Abbots, Kensington; St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; Paddington; Poplar Union; Uxbridge; St. George's, Hanover-square; St. Giles's; St. James's, Clerkenwell; St. Leonard's, Shoreditch; St. Margaret, Westminster; St. Mary, Islington; St. Marylebone; St. Pancras; part of the Strand Union, the whole of Sussex and Essex.

7701. The City of London?—No; the City of London is done by Mr. Gill, another person altogether; it is done in a different manner. There is another person removing, as well as myself, from the Strand Union; they send half to him and half to me.

7702. Do you remove also for some provincial towns?—Yes, in Essex and Sussex. I remove all that they send, I think, both from Sussex and Essex; that is very few.

7703. Have you different regulations with regard to Essex and Sussex paupers from those which you have with regard to Middlesex?—No. They were framed exactly the same.

7704. The same system of rules was adopted by all the three counties?—Yes.

7705. By the justices?—Yes; directly those regulations were passed in Middlesex they passed the same at Brighton, in Sussex, and asked Mr. Baker, at that time, to allow them to send their paupers under the same regulations to him, to which, of course, he acceded.

7706. Have the regulations ever been varied, or have they continued the same?—They have continued the same since 1845.

7707. They are regulations made by the magistrates, and sanctioned by the Secretary of State, I believe, under the Act of Parliament?—Yes.

7708. Let us take the case of an Irish pauper with regard to whom an order of removal has been made, we will say by the parish of Marylebone; how does that pauper come to you?—He is brought down by conveyance; they have a cart of their own which they bring down, under the care of an officer.

7709. To your house?—Yes, to my house.

7710. Does he bring any documents with him?—He brings me the warrant for the removal.

7711. A warrant signed by the justices?—Yes, one they retain themselves, the other they give to me.

7712. A duplicate?—Yes.

7713. Is the duplicate given to you, along with the pauper?—Yes, or I could not hold him in custody.

7714. Then the pauper remains at your house?—Yes, till the ship sails.

7715. How often do these vessels sail?—For Cork, they sail every Thursday morning; for Dublin, generally on a Saturday; they do sail both Wednesdays and Saturdays, but the Saturday's is the boat that I generally send by, on account of the Wednesday's boat putting into Southampton, which gives us more trouble. In a great many cases they would contrive to get away at Southampton, therefore we send them when they stop at as few ports as possible.

7716. You send on Thursday, generally to Cork?—Yes, every Thursday.

7717. And to Dublin on Saturday?—Yes.

7718. That is generally the practice?—Yes; in some cases I have shipped them on Wednesday.

7719. When the pauper is with you, is he treated pretty much as he would be in the workhouse?—I think he is treated better.

7720. I mean as to diet and in other respects?—I think better; the general

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average of them tell me so. I will state why I treat them better; to keep quietness I am obliged to feed them well, and better than I really ought to feed them, because I should have an uproar with them if I did not, as they are different to when they are in the workhouse.

7721. I suppose you have no means of dividing them into classes?—No; I have a room for the women to sleep in, and another for the men, and a general sitting-room for them all, the men and women together, where they have their meals.

7722. And children?—They are all together. It frequently occurs that I have nobody in from Thursday till the following Wednesday evening.

7723. What is the greatest number which you have had to send off in any week? I have had as many as five hundred in during the week, but I have never shipped more than 250 at once.

7724. About half to Cork and half to Dublin?—No.

7725. Which is the greater?—To Cork; I should say not 20 out of the 500 were for Dublin; all the rest were for Cork; 30, at all events.

7726. On the Thursday morning the vessel sails for Cork generally?—Yes.

7727. And they go on board?—Yes; I take them on board from my house.

7728. In the Thames?—Yes; my premises lie at the water side.

7729. Does anybody go with them?—Yes, to Cork.

7730. Is it not so to Dublin?—No.

7731. Who goes with them to Cork?—A person of the name of Lee.

7732. Is he a person who has been for some time in your employment?—Yes.

7733. Engaged in this business?—Yes, for something like six or seven years.

7734. Does he go every Thursday morning?—No; a man named Gall starts from London with the people, and meets Mr. Lee returning from Cork at Plymouth, when Mr. Lee takes charge of the people at Plymouth, and goes on with them; and the man that has taken them down to Plymouth returns in the other vessel.

7735. Between them they do it?—Yes, the two men; but one man I keep stationed purposely at Plymouth.

7736. Is that a man who has been for some time in your employment?—Yes; in fact, both of them have been with me five or six years.

7737. They are both of them responsible to you?—Yes; both responsible men.

7738. Both servants of yours, in fact?—Yes.

7739. When a pauper is put on board, what becomes of the duplicate of the warrant of removal?—He takes it with him.

7740. It is taken along with the pauper?—Along with the pauper.

7741. What is the practice when they arrive at Cork?—We have nothing further to do with them; the moment we have landed them, we have done with them.

7742. The Act of Parliament, I believe, requires that you should take them to the port?—Yes.

7743. And you do nothing beyond that?—Nothing, unless it may be in a particular case of a woman who has friends at some distance, who is perhaps not well, but wishes to be removed home, and the parish authorities have supplied us with further means, besides the usual sum which they pay with these people, to send her by the railway to her friends; we have done that. I did it some short time back. I sent a woman to Thurles who had been very ill, and it was her particular wish to go home to her relations; that was from the Strand Union, and they furnished me with the means to send her on from Cork by the railway to Thurles, at her express wish.

7744. Generally speaking, you are paid for taking them to Cork?—Yes, to the port of Cork, or the several ports named.

7745. When they are landed at Cork, I suppose, you conceive you have no more to do with them?—I have no more to do with them then, unless, as it has occurred in some cases, they wish us to take them to the house; we have taken them to the Cork workhouse.

7746. Who wish you to take them to the workhouse?—The paupers themselves; they have said that they were fearful they should not be received in; such a thing as a blind person that we may have removed, we have generally taken them right to the house, and they have always been received. For instance, I removed

removed about 18 or 19 months ago a boy between nine and 10 years of age; of course I would not allow a boy to be landed in Cork unless he was taken care of, so I had him sent to the Cork workhouse, and they took him immediately, and that boy remained there some time, for the young man who took him used frequently to call and see him.

7747. Did you give directions to your servant to take him to the workhouse?—Yes; to the Cork workhouse.

7748. Before he left?—Yes; and I made the arrangement with the parish previously to sending him, that if I could not find a home for the boy I should bring him back again, and they would receive him, otherwise I should not have taken him.

7749. You say that your practice in sending to Dublin differs in some respects?—Yes; we generally have to see the vessel sail from the last port in England; we have not to accompany them the whole of the distance, the numbers are so few, and they are a different class of people, that they do not require any person with them.

7750. Then do you deliver them to the captain?—We deliver them up to the steward or captain.

7751. Some officer of the vessel?—Yes.

7752. What becomes of the order of removal in that case?—We generally give it to the captain, or some other officer of the vessel, and he takes it with him to Dublin, and then it is reposted, bearing the Dublin post-mark, or wherever it may be, with the signature, that the people were landed safely at Dublin, or whatever port it may be.

7753. In the case of Cork paupers, what becomes of the order of removal when the pauper himself arrives at Cork?—It is generally brought back and kept by me.

7754. It is not handed over to anybody there?—No; we have in some cases delivered them up where they have wished us to do so. We removed a man to Roscommon, there they wished to retain the warrant, because we took him to the workhouse; he was a man that was paralysed; their officers wished to retain the warrant, for fear they should get into trouble by receiving the man, and of course, under those circumstances, we let them retain the warrant.

7755. Can you give the Committee an account of the number of paupers whom you have removed for the last few years?—Yes.

7756. Have you any documents with you?—No; I can recollect the numbers, there were about 900 last year.

7757. Are these Irish?—Yes; the Scotch are very trifling, they do not exceed 20 to 25 a year; the only year in which they did exceed that, was 1849, and then they were about 60; between 60 and 70.

7758. You were proceeding to give us the numbers of the Irish?—The year previous there were about 500; the year before that, about 820.

7759. Mr. *Maguire.*] These are what you have sent yourself?—Yes.

7760. And that is half the number sent from London?—I think mine is the greatest number sent from London; there is another person, but he does not send anything like the number that I do; I consider that I have the largest share, having been known the longest by the parishes.

7761. How are the numbers divided between you and that gentleman?—The other person removes them principally from the Surrey side; I think there are only about three parishes on the Middlesex side that he removes for.

7762. Have you any idea of the numbers that he removes in the year?—No, I have not.

7763. *Chairman.*] Will you complete the statement of your own numbers?—In 1850 I sent about 500; in 1849 I know there were 2,535; in 1848, 1,500; in 1847, between 1,100 and 1,200.

7764. Eighteen hundred and forty-eight and 1849 seem to have been the two great years?—Yes.

7765. If I caught the numbers rightly, they have been increasing again?—Yes, they have.

7766. What is that owing to; is it that you are now taking from a greater number of parishes, or that there is a greater number of paupers from the same parishes?—It cannot be from there being a greater number of parishes, because in 1848, and 1849, and 1850 we had the whole of the parishes.

7767. When did you make your arrangement, by which the parishes were divided?—The regulations for removal were made in 1845 by the magistrates,

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but the arrangement for the division of the parishes was made in 1851 by the parishes themselves, the magistrates giving them power to employ whom they pleased.

7768. Mr. *Ingham.*] It is only in the Strand Union that there is any division, is it?—There are three other parishes; St. James's, Westminster, is one that I do not have the people from.

7769. *Chairman.*] And those parishes south of the Thames?—Yes; I have nothing from the Surrey side at all. This person has Whitechapel parish too; there are a great number sent from Whitechapel; I have nothing to do with the Whitechapel parish.

7770. Who is that person?—His name is Frost; there is likewise Mr. Gill; he removes for the City of London.

7771. But you have the whole of the parishes north of the Thames, with the exception of the City of London, Whitechapel, and one or two others?—Yes; St. James's, Westminster, and St. Luke's, Chelsea.

7772. You have had a great deal of experience in this business; in your opinion is the law capable of amendment at the present moment?—I really do not know.

7773. Are you prepared to make any suggestions to the Committee with that view?—The only thing that I can see is the difficulty of the people who are removed, they being left destitute.

7774. What do you say to that?—I think there should be some provision made for them in some way or another.

7775. What has occurred to you upon that subject?—There were no complaints made during the years 1847, 1848, and 1849, and during that time Mr. Baker was receiving a larger sum of money for the people than we are now getting, and he always made it a rule upon the landing of these people to give them 1 *s.* each; if there were a man and his wife, and four or five children under 10 years of age, he gave 6 *d.*; to all above 10 years he gave 1 *s.* out of his own pocket; he was not compelled to do this, but he did it because he considered that he was receiving a good sum of money for taking these people over; it helped the people on the road. At that time I do not think that out of 100 people that we were removing to the county of Cork, five ever became chargeable to the Cork union. I think that this money that we used to give them at that time helped to take them to their own homes, where they wished to go; some perhaps had to go 30 miles, some 20 miles, some 10, and so on, and with this 5 *s.* or 6 *s.* they found it a very great assistance. It is only recently, since the parishes have so knocked down the price, that it has not allowed us to give them anything upon landing.

7776. What is your price now?—Twenty-six shillings any day but Wednesday.

7777. Twenty-six shillings for what?—That is to find them in food, and their passage; to provide them in everything; when they bring an Irish pauper to me they pay me 26 *s.*

7778. What was it formerly?—£. 2.

7779. For the same service?—For the same service; one might have been a little too much, but the other certainly is rather too low.

7780. You receive 26 *s.*?—On any day excepting Wednesday; on Wednesday we receive 24 *s.* only.

7781. Because you have to keep them a less time in your house?—Yes.

7782. They sail the next morning?—They do; in fact, what I have been trying to do is to confine the delivery of paupers to the Wednesday; but I find that, to a certain extent, I cannot do that; some of the parishes will not keep them; the moment they become chargeable to them they make an order, and I am obliged to receive them; they say, "We would rather pay you anything extra than take them into our workhouse;" some parishes do not take them in at all; for instance, the parish of Marylebone.

7783. Mr. *Maguire.*] How do they act in that case?—They give them out-door relief.

7784. To make them chargeable?—Yes.

7785. You said that some of the people had the idea that they would not be taken into the workhouse?—Yes.

7786. That was their idea?—Yes.

7787. Was not that feeling entirely fallacious in their minds?—Quite so; because directly we take them we have them received.

7788. Did you ever know a case where they were refused?—Never; it is only their own idea; they say, "We have not been here for some time, and we are afraid we shall not be taken in."

7789. You

7789. You find no want of humanity in Cork?—None whatever.

7790. No matter whether the person is a native of Cork, or of anywhere else?—No; if we have brought them they have taken them in.

7791. You can speak distinctly and clearly as to that?—Yes.

7792. Was the boy that was sent a native of Cork?—Yes.

7793. But if he had been a native of Limerick, or any other part of Ireland, the authorities at the Cork workhouse would have received him?—If he had been a native of Limerick we should have taken him to Limerick.

7794. But if by chance you had taken him to Cork, and he had been destitute in the streets of Cork, they would have taken him in?—Yes; from my experience.

7795. You say that when you have landed them in Cork, you consider that you have done with them?—Yes.

7796. And it is in a very rare and particular case that a person is sent further?—It is only when something is the matter with them.

7797. Could you give me any idea of what number of the 900 you sent to Cork?—I should think at least 700, if not more.

7798. Are you in a position to say what number the other persons, who were engaged in the shipping of paupers, have sent to Ireland?—When do you mean?

7799. Say last year, including Mr. Gill and Mr. Frost, the gentlemen of whom you spoke?—Five hundred the two; Mr. Gill sent very few indeed; I should say that Mr. Frost sent 400 at least, and that Mr. Gill hardly sent 100 last year.

7800. How many of those 500 were sent to Cork?—I should say a good 400 of them.

7801. Then 1,100 have altogether been sent last year to Cork from London?—Yes, quite that.

7802. *Chairman.*] What is the passage money to Cork?—Twelve shillings to Cork since the 1st of May; it was 10 *s.* 6 *d.* previously to the 1st of May.

7803. Mr. *Maguire.*] You have the custody of the pauper, have you not?—Yes.

7804. In fact, you are a constable for all those purposes?—Directly I receive the warrant.

7805. If you hand over the warrant to your servant, does he stand in your position?—Yes, any one who has the warrant.

7806. So that if a pauper at any time called the person who had the charge of him or her a constable, it would not be an untruth?—No.

7807. It would not be an unfair representation?—No; any person who has the pauper in charge must be a constable.

7808. Do you confer the same powers upon any of your servants to whom you transfer the paupers?—Yes; the warrant states that, I think. "All whom it may concern," It would apply even to the captain of the vessel during the time of their transmission.

7809. Sir *B. Hall.*] Are there many instances where you take the same persons over a second time?—I have removed some, but very rarely; it is almost impossible to tell, as I see so many, and they really are all so much alike, taking the description of people that I have, particularly the women. I have had them come in, and after they have been in the house a day or two, I have said, "I recollect you; I think I have sent you before." They have laughed, and said, "Yes, I was sent about a year ago," and so on.

7810. You stated that some years ago, when 2 *l.* a head was received for the removal of the paupers, instead of 26 *s.*, your predecessor, Mr. Baker, gave them 1 *s.* a head on landing at Cork; did you find that that advance of money to the extent of 1 *s.* a head was an inducement for them to spend that money in their passage back again?—Not such a sum as that; but if it had been a greater sum, perhaps they might have done it. It would not be sufficient to get them back, because it would cost a man with a family 2 *l.* or 3 *l.* In 1850 the steamboat people took them for anything, 1 *s.* or 1 *s.* 6 *d.*; that was the year when we had so few, 420; the number was nothing for us; then they did not become chargeable to the workhouses.

7811. Mr. *Maguire.*] In that very year, when there was the greatest facility of coming from Ireland here?—Yes. Then the numbers got up the following year.

7812. In the following year the passage money was higher?—Yes.

7812. What was it?—Ten shillings and sixpence.

7814. What was it in 1850?—One shilling and 1 *s.* 6 *d.*

7815. And a less number on that occasion became chargeable to the workhouses, or were removed by you?—I should say a less number became chargeable

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to the workhouses, because I did not have them. The fact is this; I think it very likely that a great number of the parishes did not go to the expense of removing them; that to those who wanted to go they said, "Here is 1 *s.* or 1 *s.* 6 *d.*, and you can go;" they furnished them with the means of going themselves. In fact, a great many of the parishes, I know, gave them a trifle to help themselves over during that year; because some of them had not been over here a week before they became chargeable to the parish; in fact, the second day.

7816. I believe the fare is now higher than it has been for a very long time? —Yes, it is higher than it has been since 1846. In 1846 it was 15 *s.* When Mr. Baker took the contract, in 1845, the fares were 17 *s.* 6 *d.*

7817. Sir *B. Hall.*] And notwithstanding that, the number of removals was increasing?—Yes; that was owing to the great distress which there was in Ireland; a great number came over here; and then one of the parishes, which was St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, removed all those people. In 1849, I think, out of the 2,500, they removed above 2,000 people from one parish, owing to their parish being under the 30,000; they got their money back again from the county. In fact, there are only two parishes now, I think, that do get the money back again from the county, which are St. Martin's and Kensington.

7818. *Chairman.*] Is that on the ground that their population is under 30,000?—Yes, their population being under 30,000, and not being in union.

7819. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] In what manner do you pass the Scotch paupers?—They are put on board the steam-vessel, and put under the care of the captain.

7820. To what port do you send them now?—It depends upon where they are going; to Leith, for Edinburgh; if they are going to Aberdeen they are sent to Aberdeen; if they are going to Inverness they are sent to Inverness, in the same manner, by the vessel; they are sent to the port nearest their parishes; Dumfries people we send to Edinburgh, and take them on by rail; we take them on from Leith to Glasgow, and from Glasgow on to Dumfries.

7821. *Chairman.*] Do you send a person with the Scotch?—Yes, where it is not direct to the port; where it suits our purpose better to send in that manner.

7822. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Do you deliver them to the Scotch parish?—No, we have nothing of that sort to do; merely to send them to the place.

7823. You have no claim upon the Scotch parishes?—No, none whatever; the principal part of the people that we remove I do not think trouble the port that we take them to; it is only here and there a case; if a party is removed against his inclination, then of course he will go to the port, in hopes of being sent back again; a great many are sent back from Cork by the mayor of Cork at the present time.

7824. *Chairman.*] How do you know that?—I have not the paper with me; two families that I removed only the week before last he sent back again.

7825. What is your information for that?—The paper.

7826. The newspaper, do you mean?—Yes; evidence was sent over here to the parish from which they were removed.

7827. Sir *B. Hall.*] What newspaper was it?—I forget the name of the paper; it is one of the Cork papers.

7828. *Chairman.*] Have you got it in your possession?—No; I can get it, and you will there see the whole statement of the two women; one was named Rogers, and I forget the name of the other.

7829. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Did they come back?—They came back in the same vessel as they were sent in. I landed them there on the Sunday, and he sent them back in the same vessel on the following Thursday.

7830. Do you know what became of them afterwards?—No; they did not go to the same parish, but a paper was sent to me, and I went up to the parish that they came from to tell them that they were coming back on the Monday, or they would have thought that I had not removed them.

7831. Mr. *Maguire.*] Have these people become chargeable to that parish since?—No; not to that parish.

7832. If they applied again, would the parish have the power of committing them as vagrants?—They would try to do so; they would try to get each of the women committed as vagrants, and get another order and send them back again.

7833. Sir *B. Hall.*] Do you know what parish these people went to?—No.

7834. *Chairman.*] Have you any other cases, and do you know the mode in which they have returned?—Yes, there are a great many cases that the mayor of Cork

Cork has returned. I will mention the case of a woman of the name of Barry, with four children, from the Poplar union. I sent them by the boat, and they returned in the following week.

7835. How do you know that the mayor of Cork returned them?—My man tells me that he saw a person sent from the mayor of Cork to pay their passage on board the steamboat, and likewise furnish them with money to obtain food during their voyage; and the whole of this statement was in the papers; that the mayor of Cork had done so-and-so, and ordered this woman to be sent back again.

7836. Is that the only case, or have you other cases?—There are other cases; there is the case of a woman and five children, named Conden, whom I removed from Marylebone; she was sent back in the same manner.

7837. How soon after her removal?—In the same week. She came back to London and went to Marylebone parish again, but she did not take her children with her. They refused her relief, and told her to bring her children and they would give her relief; however, they never saw her afterwards.

7838. Have you any other case?—There have been so many cases, that just at the moment I do not recollect.

7839. You say there have many other cases?—Yes.

7840. From whom did you derive your information of the other cases; from the paupers themselves?—From the paupers themselves, and likewise from my own man, who saw this person who did all this at Cork.

7841. What person?—A person employed at Cork, at the police office; a man who knows my man perfectly well. My man used previously to be in the habit of going there every time he took paupers to make a declaration that he had delivered so many paupers to the port of Cork; they refused to sign that declaration, thinking that they would prevent us from being paid for bringing these people over; they thought that we could not obtain our money unless we had this declaration signed; whereas we received the money before we took the people. It is very bad of them to refuse to sign the declaration, because they would then have the means of seeing clearly who the parties were that were brought; they could take a copy of the declaration and make inquiry of the man at the time he went, and ask him any questions; but by refusing they get no information whatever.

7842. Do you say that this man of yours has reported to you that he has frequently known cases of paupers being sent back?—Yes.

7843. Is that down to the present time?—Down to the present time; I expect that a woman will be sent back this week; I sent her last Thursday, and I fully expect her back this week.

7844. Why do you expect her back?—Because I have sent her against her will and inclination; it is a woman who did not wish to be sent.

7845. Mr. *J. Ball.*] It appears that this security given by the law is not a very efficient one?—No; she was sent from St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, a woman with four children.

7846. Sir *B. Hall.*] When did you see the account in the paper of the previous case?—About a fortnight back.

7847. A Cork paper?—Yes.

7848. Sir *R. Ferguson.*] How long had the woman who was sent from St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, been in this country?—She had been some time in this country, but only a little time in the parish that she was sent from; she had been living in Bishopsgate with her husband, who was a tailor; he went away to America about 18 months back, and she had been waiting in the hopes that he would send her money to take her to America; but I believe when he first got out there he was taken ill, and was not able to send what he promised. She applied for out-door relief from Bishopsgate, where they could not have removed her, because, I think, she had acquired a five years' residence; but they offered her to come into the house; she refused to come into the house because she heard that the children were sent into the country. They only keep grown-up people in the workhouse in Bishopsgate; they send the children to some other house in the country. She was told that if she was sent to St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, she would be able to see her children every day, as they kept the children there in the workhouse. She removed out of Bishopsgate into St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, where they kept her for a few months in the workhouse, and finding that they could not get rid of her they sent her to Ireland.

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7849. Mr. *Maguire.*] Her five years' residence was broken?—Yes, by removing from one parish to another.

7850. Who suggested her removing in the first instance?—I do not know.

7851. You say she was living in the parish of St. Bishopsgate?—Yes.

7852. She had a legal claim there?—Till she removed out of it.

7853. Who recommended her to remove into the other parish?—Some of her own friends, who told her that if she went to St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, she would be able to see her children (some people, perhaps, in the house where she was living). I am only telling you what the woman told me herself. During the time she was at my place, waiting to be sent to Ireland, she told me that she expected a letter from her husband: I went and got the letter; there happened to be a letter from him; he had lost one of his eyes, and he was then to undergo an operation to save the sight of the other; so that there was no chance of his being able to send for her.

7854. How long had she been living in England altogether?—Nineteen years.

7855. Naturally it must have been against her will to be removed to Ireland?—Yes.

7856. And a case of that kind was very natural to have excited great sympathy when told by the pauper in a crowded court?—It was.

7857. Mr. *Ingham.*] And it appears that you expect her to come back again?—I do; in all those cases I really expect to find them return.

7858. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] She had been 19 years in this country?—Yes.

7859. And had acquired irremovability?—Yes; I think she had in Bishopsgate, by living there five years.

7860. She went to the parish, to ask for relief?—Yes.

7861. The parish said, "We will give you relief; we will take you into the workhouse here, and we will send your children to the depôt, where we take care of children under those circumstances"?—Yes.

7862. But she, although she had obtained irremovability, sooner than part with the children, quitted the parish where she had acquired it, and went and resided in another parish?—Yes.

7863. That was entirely an act of her own?—Yes.

7864. The parish of Bishopsgate would have relieved her had she conformed to the regulations there, by allowing her children to be sent into the country, where their health would be cared for, where they would be kept cleanly, and where they would be educated; she would not listen to that, they gave up her claim upon that parish and went into the other?—Yes.

7865. And the other parish passed her?—The other parish sent her to Ireland.

7866. Is there any hardship in that?—I do not see any hardship; it would be a great hardship upon the parish of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, to keep that woman, she only having been there three months.

7867. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Have you any reason to doubt that, if she had known the provisions of the law, she would not have removed into St. Leonard's, Shoreditch?—I think she would not have removed if she did not wish to be sent to Ireland.

7868. Therefore it appears that it is necessary for paupers to be very well informed of the provisions of the law, in order to have the advantage which the law intends to give them by those provisions?—I believe the generality of them are pretty well informed upon the subject.

7869. But this poor woman does not appear to have been?—No; she went to St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, because they send so very few; I suppose no parish in London sends so few as St. Leonard's, Shoreditch; they generally keep them there a very long time before they really do send them; and she was in hope, I expect, that a letter would come from her husband to take her to America before she was sent, and I have no doubt it would have been so but for the bad health of the man, because there certainly was a letter from her husband, which I sent and got.

7870. But, upon the whole, you think it no hardship to take her from the country, where she has been for 19 years, and send her to Ireland?—I did not say so; I think it is a hardship.

7871. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] But, at the same time, a hardship which she could have avoided?—Yes.

7872. When she applied to the parish of Bishopsgate they told her that they would take her into the workhouse, and her children also?—Yes.

7873. But

7873. But that the children would be sent into the country, where healthy air, cleanliness, and everything which was conducive to their health, and also to their education, would be obtained by them?—Yes.

7874. She refused that, and went into another parish?—Yes.

7875. Therefore when that had been offered to her she could not be ignorant that a provision of that kind was at her command; when she refused going into the workhouse of Bishopsgate, and refused being separated from her children, which is the custom of Bishopsgate parish, she was perfectly aware that they would be provided for?—Certainly.

7876. She was not then ignorant of the provision which the law of England makes?—No.

7877. Mr. *Maguire.*] Are you confident of all that about the rural felicities to be enjoyed by the children in the country?—Yes; she was told that her children would be sent into the country; she did not want telling, because she knew it perfectly well; there were a great many of her friends in the house, and she knew that the children were in the country. I think her object was this, that she wanted to keep her children upon the spot, in the hope that she would receive this money from America, and there would be a delay perhaps in getting her children back from the country.

7878. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Is it not the practice in many of the London parishes, that for the health of the children who become chargeable, they have places in the country to which they send them?—Yes, a great many.

7879. That arises from no harsh feeling towards them?—No; I think quite the reverse.

7880. Therefore what the English do for their own paupers, applying the same to the Irish poor could be no hardship upon them?—Certainly not. The parish of St. George's-in-the-East have a large place down in Essex where they send all their children.

7881. *Chairman.*] They are becoming more numerous?—Yes. Another parish send their children to the same place, namely, Kensington; they send their children to the same house as St. George's, because the house is too large for one parish; it can accommodate several parishes from what I have heard of it.

7882. Sir *B. Hall.*] Are there not some parishes in the metropolis which are almost non-removing parishes?—Some remove very few.

7883. And there are others which are decidedly removing parishes?—Yes.

7884. St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, is one of the former?—Yes.

7885. And St. Marylebone is one of the latter?—Yes; it is the only thing by which they can keep them in check at all there; they would otherwise want a house as large again in Marylebone parish, I am confident.

7886. Mr. *J. Ball.*] Do you know what is the amount of workhouse accommodation in Marylebone parish?—They can accommodate about 2,000 in the workhouse in Marylebone; they have had as many as 2,400; about 1,700, I think, is their general average.

7887. Are you aware that that proportion of workhouse accommodation is much smaller than it is in the towns in Ireland?—It may be; I know that the workhouses in Ireland are much larger.

7888. Mr. *Alexander Hastie.*] Are you aware whether any of the persons whom you remove become chargeable for the purpose of being removed at the expense of the parish?—It may be so in some few cases; they become chargeable because they have no means of keeping themselves.

7889. Are you aware of their becoming chargeable for the purpose of the expense of removal being paid by the parish?—Very few; in some cases of young girls about 17, 18, or 19 years of age, I have found it so, who have come over here to see some relation, and who have afterwards said that they could not find the relation; they have become chargeable to a workhouse. In Marylebone parish, for instance, they never allow young girls to wander about the streets, if they can possibly help it; they take them immediately and pass them home.

7890. *Chairman.*] In your intercourse with these paupers, have you had any means of judging how far they prefer or not the system of relief in England to that in Ireland?—I have heard them all say that they like the system in England better than the system in Ireland.

7891. What reason have they assigned?—They say that they get more food in England; more meat. I am speaking of those parties who have been some years in England.

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7892. Sir *B. Hall.*] Do you hear complaints from the Irish paupers as to the badness of the diet which is given to them in the workhouses in Ireland?—Yes, I have done so.

7893. Is that complaint general?—I do not say it is general; I have heard them say that they are very badly fed in some of the houses.

7894. Mr. *Maguire.*] Do they complain rather of not getting meat than of not getting a sufficiency of food?—I have heard them say that they do not get a sufficiency; they very often say that, when I know that they do get sufficient; they very often complain of the quantities which I give them myself; and I consider that what I give them is quite sufficient; for instance, to a pauper to Cork I give two pounds of bread a day, whether a man or a woman, six ounces of cheese, about one ounce of coffee, and two ounces of sugar; that is for one day.

7895. *Chairman.*] You do not see much, I suppose, of the Irish people coming over to this country?—Yes, I do.

7896. At Wapping?—I generally make it my business to go aboard the vessel when it arrives in London every Sunday.

7897. In what state do they generally come?—A great many of them in a very wretched state, with scarcely 6 *d.*, and some of them with not sufficient to pay their landing-money.

7898. You have mentioned one case of a person who applied the day after landing for relief?—Yes. I do not say that that is general at all, because they come over here and expect to meet with some friends and cannot find them. We very frequently find, when the boat is coming on the Sunday, droves of them waiting for their friends to arrive; they are disappointed in the arrival of the vessel, and they go away, and perhaps in an hour after they are gone away the vessel arrives, and these people do not know where their friends live, never, perhaps, having been in England before; and they have such directions as would never find any one. I, myself, before now, having been used to it for years, have endeavoured to make out the directions, but I have found it very difficult.

7899. Do many of them land in an obviously destitute condition, judging from clothing and appearance?—Yes, a great many of them. There are a great many women with children, without any men with them at all; they say that their husbands are over here, and that they have come to look for them; they wander about for a long time, and cannot find them, and they become chargeable to a workhouse; perhaps in the country; perhaps round about London, or in London itself. If they are offered to be passed home, they say that they will not go home, and they go away. A great many of the parishes say, "We can do nothing for you, we must pass you home;" after having given them relief, "If you come here to-morrow we shall send you home." If they apply again, they try to obtain a magistrate's order. If a woman says that she does not wish to go home, perhaps the magistrate will not sign the order: he says, "Well, you must not trouble this parish again; if you do, I shall sign this order."

7900. Can you tell the Committee what proportion of those whom you remove are men, what women, and what children?—I have had very few men of late indeed.

7901. The greater proportion have been women and children?—Yes.

7902. You say "of late"; is the proportion of men now smaller than it was formerly?—A great deal.

7903. Mr. *Archibald Hastie.*] Are the arrivals the same?—I should say the arrivals as well are reduced; I think the men generally come over here first for the purpose of endeavouring to obtain employment, then they send over money for their wives and children to come over after them; therefore it may happen that the women will come by themselves, but perhaps their husbands may meet them when they arrive here, and they frequently come over in a very destitute condition.

7904. That is, the wives and children?—Yes; so that they can get here.

APPENDIX.

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Letter from Evan David, Esq., to the Right Hon. M. T. Baines, M.P., Chairman: enclosing—

Summary of Irish Paupers Relieved in the Town of Cardiff, and the Cost thereof, from September 1846 to September 1850, paid by the Cardiff Poor Law Union - - p. 612

Appendix, No. 15.

Abstract of Correspondence from the Boards of Guardians in Ireland to the Poor Law Commissioners in Ireland, the Poor Law Commissioners in England, and the Board of Supervision of the Poor in Scotland, relative to the Removal of Irish Poor - - - - - p. 613

Appendix, No. 16.

Papers relating to the Case of Ann Leech, removed to Limerick by the Parishes of St. Giles and St. George, Bloomsbury - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 662

Appendix, No. 17.

Further Communication from Robert Pashley, Esq., one of Her Majesty's Counsel - p. 664

Appendix, No. 18.

Letter from Mr. V. T. Coombes to the Right Hon. M. T. Baines, M.P., Chairman, enclosing Return of the Number of Poor receiving Relief in and out of the Workhouse of St. George-in-the-East, in 1854, showing the Proportion of Irish Poor to the whole Number - - p. 672

APPENDIX.

Appendix, No. 1.

PAPERS delivered in by *Alfred Power*, Esq.

PAPER referred to at Question 421.

No. 1.

REPLIES to CIRCULAR, No. 238 M/54, dated 28 April 1854.

NAMES OF UNIONS.	Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the Union during the Year ended 25th March last, on being removed under Magistrate's Order from England or Scotland.	Number of Paupers at present receiving Relief in the Union, who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present Time, on their Removal from England or Scotland.
Belfast	191	13
Cork	103	72
Drogheda	50 (*a*)	1
North Dublin	584	163
South Dublin	178	50
Dundalk	Nil.	Nil.
Limerick	9	2
Londonderry	35 (*b*)	7
Newry	7	1 (*c*)
Sligo	7	9
Waterford	40	2
Wexford	4	7
TOTAL	1,208	327

(*a*) Thirty of these from England; 20 from Scotland.

(*b*) Of this number, 12 produced the orders of removal, and 23 alleged that they had been sent by the English or Scotch authorities, but had no warrants to show.

(*c*) An inmate of the workhouse about three years.

Appendix, No. 1.

Paper Supplementary to No. 1.

RETURN showing the Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the Twelve undermentioned Unions of *Ireland*, during the Year ended 25 March last, on being removed from *England* or *Scotland*; showing also the Number now receiving Relief in those Unions, who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present, on their being removed from *England* or *Scotland*; distinguishing the Number of Persons who were Born in the Union to which they became Chargeable, from the Number who were not.

1. NAME OF UNIONS.	2. Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the Union during the Year ended 25th March last on being removed from England or Scotland.	3. Number of Paupers at present receiving Relief in the Union, who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present Time, on their being removed from England or Scotland.	4. Number of the Persons returned in Column 2		5. Number of the Persons in Column 3	
			Who were Born in Union.	Not Born in Union.	Who were Born in Union.	Not Born in Union.
Belfast	191	13	4	177	No Return.	
Cork	103	72	32	71	26	46
Drogheda	50	1	Not known			1
North Dublin	584	163	87	497	31	132
South Dublin	178	50	No Return		No Return.	
Dundalk	Nil	Nil	—	—	—	—
Limerick	9	(*a*) 4	Not known		1	(*b*) 3
Londonderry	35	7	No Return		No Return.	
Newry	7	1	3	4	1	—
Sligo	7	9	7		3	(*c*) 7
Waterford	(*d*) 40	2	Birthplace not known.			
Wexford	4	7	2	2	2	5
Total	1,208	329	135	755	64	194

(*a*) In the Return previously forwarded, only two were given under this heading; the clerk altered it to four on the Return being sent back to him for information as to the birthplace of the parties included in it.

(*b*) Two of these were born in London.

(*c*) Two of these were born in Scotland, and one in England.

(*d*) The Board of Guardians of Waterford state that in several cases the persons removed by order of the magistrates from England and Scotland, and who became chargeable to the union, were born in England, and resided there until the period of their compulsory removal to this country, on no other pretence than that one or both of their parents were dead.

Paper referred to at Question 422.

No. 2.

RETURN showing the Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the undermentioned Unions, during the Year ended 25 March last, in consequence of having been removed from *England* or *Scotland*; showing also the Number of Persons at present receiving Relief in such Unions, who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present, on their Removal from *England* or *Scotland*.

Unions.	Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the Union during the Year ended 25th March last, in consequence of having been removed from England or Scotland.	Number of Persons at present receiving Relief in the Union, who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present, on their Removal from England or Scotland.	Unions.	Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the Union during the Year ended 25th March last, in consequence of having been removed from England or Scotland.	Number of Persons at present receiving Relief in the Union, who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present, on their Removal from England or Scotland.
Abbeyleix	7	4	Ballinrobe	1	—
Antrim	—	4	Ballycastle	—	—
Ardee	2	—	Ballymahon	6	5
Armagh	(*a*) 29	2	Ballymena	6	—
Athlone	3	—	Ballymoney	5	8
Athy	—	3	Ballyshannon	—	—
Ballina	—	—	Ballyraghan	—	—
Ballinasloe	—	—	Balrothery	—	2

(*a*) The clerk states that this number was relieved, but cannot say how many of them were removed by the authorities.

UNIONS.	Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the Union during the Year ended 25th March last, in consequence of having been removed from England or Scotland.	Number of Persons at present receiving Relief in the Union, who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present, on their Removal from England or Scotland.
Baltinglass	—	—
Banbridge	—	—
Bandon	38	14
Bantry	3	2
Bawnboy	—	—
Belmullet	—	—
Borrisokane	11	5
Boyle	1	(a) 1
Caherciveen	1	2
Callan	—	—
Carlow	—	—
Carrickmacross	—	—
Carrick-on-Shannon.	6	5
Cashel	-	9
Castlebar	12	13
Castleblayney	—	—
Castlecomer	—	—
Castlederg	—	—
Castlerea	2	3
Castletowndelvin	—	—
Cavan	4	—
Celbridge	7	—
Claremorris	3	2
Clifden	—	—
Clogheen	4	4
Clogher	-	1
Clonakilty	1	5
Clones	12	—
Clonmel	9	10
Coleraine	-	6
Cookstown	-	3
Cootehill	2	5
Corrofin	—	—
Croom	—	—
Dingle	3	2
Donegal	—	—
Downpatrick	5	(b) 2
Dromore, West	—	—
Dunfanaghy	-	1
Dungannon	-	1
Dunmanway	1	(c) 3
Dunshaughlin	—	—
Edenderry	7	9
Ennis	2	1
Enniscorthy	-	1
Enniskillen	-	(d) 2
Ennistymon	4	—
Fermoy	1	—
Galway	2	7
Glennamaddy	8	5
Glenties	—	—
Glin	—	—
Gorey	—	—
Gort	—	—
Gortin	—	—
Granard	—	—
Inishowen	7	4
Kanturk	—	—
Kells	—	—
Kenmare	8	5
Kilkeel	1	—
Kilkenny	(e) 4	3
Killadysert	—	—
Killala	—	—
Killarney	15	11
Kilmacthomas	—	—
Kilmallock	23	8
Kilrush	—	—
Kinsale	—	—
Larne	-	4
Letterkenny	—	—
Lismore	-	8
Lisnaskea	—	—
Listowel	—	—
Longford	4	—
Loughrea	8	8
Lowtherstown	2	2
Lurgan	-	5
Magherafelt	1	9
Mallow	5	—
Manorhamilton	—	—
Midleton	4	3
Milford	4	1
Millstreet	—	—
Mitchelstown	—	—
Mohill	-	1
Monaghan	10	8
Mount Bellew	1	—
Mountmelick	-	1
Mullingar	1	—
Naas	—	—
Navan	—	—
Nenagh	2	1
Newcastle	—	—
Newport	—	—
New Ross	—	—
Newtownards	6	20
Newtownlimavady	-	1
Oldcastle	—	—
Omagh	2	5
Oughterard	—	—
Parsonstown	6	2
Portumna	—	—
Rathdown	13	1
Rathdrum	—	—
Rathkeale	—	—

(continued)

(a) This person became blind at Preston, and was removed therefrom to Ireland.
(b) One of these in workhouse during the last three years.
(c) Includes a child born in England.
(d) Two orphans sent from Scotland.
(e) These were children brought over from Manchester by a relieving officer to the workhouse on 12th August 1853, soon after the death of their parents there. One of them died since admission to workhouse.

Appendix, No. 1.

UNIONS.	Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the Union during the Year ended 25th March last, in consequence of having been removed from England or Scotland.	Number of Persons at present receiving Relief in the Union, who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present, on their Removal from England or Scotland.	UNIONS.	Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the Union during the Year ended 25th March last, in consequence of having been removed from England or Scotland.	Number of Persons at present receiving Relief in the Union, who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present, on their Removal from England or Scotland.
Roscommon -	2	1	Tipperary - -	5	6
Roscrea - -	2	5	Tobercurry - -	-	3
Scariff - -	1	4	Tralee - -	—	—
Shillelagh - -	—	—	Trim - -	—	—
Skibbereen -	—	—	Tuam - -	6	—
Skull - -	—	—	Tulla - -	—	—
Strabane - -	2	2	Tullamore - -	11	11
Stranorlar - -	—	—	Urlingford -	- - -	1
Strokestown -	4	1	Westport - -	- - -	(a) 2
Swineford - -	—	—	Youghal - -	—	—
Thomastown -	—	—			
Thurles - -	—	—			

(a) The clerk states, that prior to the 25th March 1853 large numbers of persons became chargeable to the union who were sent in charge of parish officers, or begged their way from England or Scotland, and that many of those persons were orphans of labourers who died there.

SUMMARY.

	Number of Paupers who became Chargeable to the Union during the Year ended 25th March last, in consequence of having been removed from England or Scotland.	Number of Persons at present receiving Relief in the Union who became Chargeable at any Time up to the present, on their Removal from England or Scotland.
144 Unions, included in the above List - - -	368	299
12 Unions, included in previous Return (Port Unions) -	1,208	327
7 Unions from which Returns have not been received -	—	—
163 - - - Total Unions.	1,576	626

Paper referred to at Question 491.

No. 3.

CASE for the Opinion of the Right Honourable the Attorney-General.

The Commissioners have received from their inspector, Colonel Clarke, a communication, accompanied by a document, which he states has been placed in his hands by the master of the workhouse of the Ballinasloe Union, who informed him that the parties therein named were left by the driver of the public car at the police station at Ballinasloe, and being utterly destitute, have been provisionally relieved, pending a decision on their case.

The following is a copy of the document referred to:—

"Board-room, Athlone Union, 14 October 1850.

"The bearers, Patrick and Mary Lynan, having, on investigation, been found to belong to the Union of Tuam, the Guardians of the Athlone Union have, by a vote at their meeting

meeting of this day, ordered their transmission to Ballinasloe, that they may be removed from thence to Tuam.

"Signed, on behalf of a majority of the Board,
"*H. M. Smyth*, Chairman."

"R. Irwin, Clerk of the Union."

The sections in the Irish Poor Relief Acts, which immediately direct the relief of the destitute poor, are the 41st section of the 1st & 2d Vict., c. 56, and the 1st & 2d sections of the 10th Vict. c. 31. The 41st sect. of the 1st & 2d Vict., c. 56, requires that the guardians shall "take order for relieving and setting to work in the workhouse, in the first place, such destitute poor persons as by reason of old age, infirmity, or defect, may be unable to support themselves, and destitute children; and in the next place, such other persons as the said guardians shall deem to be destitute poor, and unable to support themselves by their own industry or by other lawful means: provided always, that in any case when there may not be sufficient accommodation for the relief of all the persons applying for relief, whom the guardians shall deem to be destitute poor, the guardians shall relieve such of the said persons as may be resident in the Union before or in preference to those who may not be so resident."

The 10 Vict., c. 31, made further provision for the relief of the destitute poor, the first section of which empowers guardians to give relief, either in the workhouse or out of the workhouse, to "such destitute poor persons as are permanently disabled from labour by reason of old age, infirmity, or bodily or mental defect, and of such destitute poor persons as, being disabled from labour by reason of severe sickness or serious accident, are thereby deprived of the means of earning a subsistence for themselves and their families, and of destitute poor widows having two or more legitimate children dependent upon them;" and the section goes on to direct that the guardians "shall take order for relieving or setting to work in the workhouse of the union, at all times when there shall be sufficient room in the workhouse of the union to enable them to do so, such other persons as the said guardians shall deem to be destitute poor, and unable to support themselves by their own industry, or by other lawful means."

By the 1st section of the Act 10 Vict., c. 31, as last cited, the guardians have a legal discretion either to withhold or to grant relief, only as they may deem to be destitute or otherwise, such applicant or applicants for whom there shall be sufficient room in the workhouse; but there is no provision in the Irish Poor Relief Acts giving to Boards of Guardians the power of removing or enabling applicants to remove to another union. When there is not room in the workhouse of any union, the Commissioners are empowered, by the 2d sect. of 10 Vict. c. 31, to issue an order authorising the guardians to give out-door relief to classes not included in the power directly given for that object by the first section. Shortly after the passing of the Act 10 Vict., c. 31, the Commissioners in a circular letter explained to the several Boards of Guardians that previous residence was not a requisite preliminary to relief in any union; and this circular contains the following instruction:

The Commissioners for administering the laws for relief of the poor in Ireland, having observed that in some instances relief has been refused to applicants, or discontinued to paupers to whom it had been given, on the ground that they had not previously resided in the union, or had not resided in it for a certain time, or that they "do not belong to the union," I am directed by the Commissioners to point out to the several Boards of Guardians, that previous residence in the union is not, by any provisions of the Irish Poor Relief Acts, made a condition upon which relief should be given, destitution being the sole ground of relief; and that if any applicant be deemed by the guardians, in the exercise of their discretion in regard to the case, a fit object of relief as a destitute person, such person should be relieved in the union in which he is or becomes destitute and applies for relief, without regard to the circumstances of his having been previously resident therein or not, or to the length of time during which he may have been resident.

By the provisions of the Irish Poor Relief Extension Act (10 Vict. c. 31), the guardians are now required to make provision for the relief of all classes of destitute persons, either in or out of the workhouse; and the consideration whether a destitute person has or has not been previously resident in the union cannot legally affect his claim to relief.

The Commissioners have had frequent occasion to remonstrate with Boards of Guardians against the practice of removing paupers; and any application of the funds of the union for that purpose would be an infraction of the 52d section of the Act 1 & 2 Vict., c. 56, which prohibits the application of the union funds to any purpose not expressly provided for. It is manifest, however, that any disallowance of the trifling expense of removing destitute poor to an adjoining union affords no adequate means of prevention of such practice, and no redress or indemnification whatever to the parties improperly burthened with the paupers so removed.

The Commissioners apprehend that unless it can be shown to Boards of Guardians so removing poor persons that they cannot persist in the practice without laying themselves open to the consequences of a deliberate violation of the law, retaliatory measures may be resorted to by the Boards of Guardians of other unions, which would occasion much suffering among destitute applicants for relief.

Appendix, No. 1.

To protect unions from the cost of supporting poor persons who may not have been resident in them, as well as generally to restrict persons from mendicancy, the following provisions have been enacted in the 3d section of the Act 10 & 11 Vict., cap. 84: "Every person wandering abroad and begging, or placing himself in any public place, street, highway, court, or passage to beg or gather alms, or causing, or procuring, or encouraging any child or children so to do, and every person who having been resident in any union in Ireland, shall go from such union to some other union, or from one electoral or relief district to another electoral or relief district in Ireland, for the purpose of obtaining relief in such last-mentioned union or district, shall on conviction thereof before any justice of the peace, if such justice shall think fit, be committed to the common gaol or house of correction, there to be kept to hard labour for any time not exceeding one calendar month."

The Commissioners request to be advised:

1. Whether, in your opinion, a mode of proceeding can be adopted by the Board of Guardians of the Ballinasloe Union to obtain redress in respect of the relief which they have thus been improperly called upon to afford the paupers in question, by the act of the Board of Guardians of the Athlone Union.

2. Whether an indictment for a misdemeanor is sustainable against the guardians of the Athlone Union.

OPINION.

I do not think that it would be advisable for the guardians of the Ballinasloe Union to commence an action against the guardians of the Athlone Union for the amount of money expended on the relief of the paupers improperly conveyed to and left at Ballinasloe, as the costs to the public would be much more than the demand; but I think that an indictment lies against the Athlone guardians for causing the paupers to be so conveyed from their union to the Ballinasloe Union, thereby burthening the latter with the costs of their support. The Board of Guardians is a corporate body, but it is decided that a corporation may be indicted.

(signed) *John Hatchell.*

5 December 1850.

PAPER referred to at Question 468.

No. 4.

IT appears from an examination of the Return of correspondence relating to Irish paupers removed from England and Scotland to Ireland, that of 641 papers, bearing different dates in that Return, the distribution in different years is as follows:

	NUMBER OF PAPERS.
In the year 1846	14
„ 1847	50
„ 1848	102
„ 1849	86
„ 1850	82
„ 1851	147
„ 1852	67
„ 1853	71
„ 1854	52
TOTAL	641

The above statement may be taken to indicate the comparative number of complaints in successive years, but not the comparative number of removals, with any degree of certainty.

For example, in North Dublin Union, the number of removals was much greater in 1853 than in any former year.

PAPER referred to at Question 507.

No. 5.

RETURN of the Number of ABLE-BODIED INMATES of the WORKHOUSES in *Ireland*, in the last Week of April in Five successive Years, beginning with the Year 1850.

YEAR.	ABLE-BODIED MALES.	ABLE-BODIED FEMALES.	TOTAL.
1850 - - - - -	24,934	61,904	86,838
1851 - - - - -	23,195	61,284	84,479
1852 - - - - -	16,781	44,042	60,823
1853 - - - - -	11,818	31,808	43,626
1854 - - - - -	7,804	21,598	29,402

Appendix, No. 2.

POLICE OFFICE, BOROUGH OF CORK.

DECLARATION.

Borough of Cork, to wit. } I, *Harriett Gardiner*, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I was born in Tipperary, in Ireland. When a child I went to England, and have been residing in England for over 25 years; I got married there, and have had seven children; three of them are alive. My child, aged about nine years, got ill, and I applied for relief at St. Margaret's, Westminster. I was there about nine days, but I wanted relief for a night only, the child being ill. I wished to leave the next morning, but would not be permitted; and about the ninth day I was taken to the Sessions House, and ordered to be sent to Ireland, and I and my three children were landed in Cork on yesterday after a severe passage, and the conductor, Mr. Lee, gave myself and another woman, named Catherine Rogers, 6*d.* each on our landing. I have no friend in Cork, nor do I believe that I have any friend in Ireland. My husband knows nothing of my being sent to Ireland. I was sent to Cork against my will; and I would not have had occasion to seek workhouse relief had not my child got ill, as I could support myself by working as a laundress. And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act made and passed in the sixth year of the reign of his late Majesty William the Fourth (5 & 6 Will. 4, cap. 62), intituled "An Act to repeal an Act of the present Session of Parliament, intituled An Act for the more effectual abolition of Oaths and Affirmations, taken and made in various departments of the State, and to substitute declarations in lieu thereof, and for the more entire suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths and affidavits, and to make other provisions for the abolition of unnecessary oaths."

her
Harriett + *Gardiner.*
mark.

Made and subscribed before me, this 29th day of May 1854,

J. N. Murphy, Mayor of Cork, { One of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for Borough of Cork.

endix, No. 2.

POLICE OFFICE, BOROUGH OF CORK.

Declaration.

Borough of Cork, to wit. } I, *Catherine Rogers*, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I am the wife of Samuel Rogers, ship carpenter, now in London, a native of England, and that I am a native of Cork, from which city I went to England about eight years ago, and I was married to my said husband in England, about seven years ago, in Strut Church, Newport. I have two children living. My husband has been out of work about six weeks. My youngest child, aged about 12 months, got sick about a month since, and I went with my two children into St. Margaret's Workhouse, Westminster, and we remained there up to last Tuesday. I and my children (the younger child being then and still very ill) were forcibly taken before a magistrate at the Sessions House, near Westminster Abbey, and the magistrate ordered that we should be sent to Ireland. I told them that I wanted my discharge, that I would go to my husband, and not again return to the union house; it was refused me, and the next morning we were forcibly put into a cab and taken to a steamer, and sent to Cork. I have no relative in Cork; both of my children were born in England, and my husband knows nothing, as I believe, of my being sent to Ireland. And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act made and passed in the sixth year of the reign of his late Majesty William the Fourth (5 & 6 Will. 4, cap. 62), intituled "An Act to repeal an Act of the present Session of Parliament, intituled An Act for the more effectual abolition of Oaths and Affirmations taken and made in various departments of the State, and to substitute declarations in lieu thereof, and for the more entire suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths and affidavits, and to make other provisions for the abolition of unnecessary oaths."

her
Catherine + *Rogers.*
mark.

Made and subscribed before me, this 29th day of May 1854,

J. N. Murphy, Mayor of Cork, { One of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for Borough of Cork.

endix, No. 3.

Appendix, No. 3.

PAPER transmitted by Mr. *Cusack*, Chairman of the North Dublin Union.

NAMES of Persons in the North Dublin Union Workhouse, 26th May 1854, who were sent from *England* and *Scotland* without the Order of a Magistrate, and by what Union.

NAME.	Date of Admission to North Dublin Union.	Name of Union by which transmitted from England or Scotland.
Sarah Murphy	18 March 1854	Halifax.
Catherine Murphy	3 April 1854	Manchester.
Catherine M'Cormack	8 May 1854	Ditto.
Mary Tagerty	3 May 1854	Dundee.
Alice Hogan	25 April 1853	Brownlow-hill, Liverpool.
Margaret Hefferman	11 September 1853	St. Hellier's, Jersey.

Appendix, No. 4.

CORRESPONDENCE on the Case of *Patrick Flanagan.*

(No. 18,219—1854.) Belfast Union.

Poor-Law Commission Office, Dublin,
30 May 1854.

Sir,

With reference to the resolution contained in Minutes of Proceedings of the Board of Guardians of Belfast Union, on the 10th instant, requesting the Commissioners to inquire into the particulars of the removal of a boy named "Patrick Flanagan," now an inmate of the workhouse, who has been removed by magistrates' order from Scotland, I am directed by the Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland, to transmit herewith, to be laid before the Board of Guardians, a copy of a communication which the Commissioners have received from the Board of Supervision of the Poor in Scotland, with whom the Commissioners have been in communication on the subject.

In reference to that part of the letter from the Board of Supervision, in which it is suggested that the question of the legality of the removal of the boy "Flanagan" should be submitted to the review of a superior court of law, I am to state that, under the existing state of the law, the Commissioners fear that the guardians will find a difficulty in acting on this advice, inasmuch as there is "no provision" in the Irish statutes enabling the guardians to incur the necessary expenditure, and to charge the same on the rates.

By order of the Commissioners,
(signed) *W. Stanley,*
Secretary.

The Clerk,
Belfast Union.

(Copy.)

(No. 18,219/54.) Belfast Union.

Board of Supervision, Edinburgh.
26 May 1854.

Sir,

I have had the honour to lay before the Board of Supervision for the Relief of the Poor in Scotland, your letter of the 16th instant, with enclosed extract from minutes of proceedings of the Board of Guardians of Belfast Union, and copies of documents therein referred to, relative to the case of a boy named Patrick Flanagan, removed by sheriff-substitute's order from Perth to Ireland; and I am directed to state, for the information of the Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland, that the proceedings in this case of removal appear to have been regular in point of form, and that a warrant of removal having been granted by the sheriff-substitute, it is not subject to the review of the Board of Supervision.

In these circumstances the Board do not feel entitled to express an opinion as to the legality of the removal. Warrants of removal, however, if improperly granted, are subject to the review of the superior courts of law; and the Board are of opinion that, in the present case, there are grounds which make it desirable that the sheriff-substitute's decision should be submitted to review.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. O. Swanne,* Secretary.

To W. Stanley, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Affidavits in the Case of *Michael Donnelly* and *Mary Berry.*

Michael Donnelly, 44 years of age, on his oath, saith:—I have lived constantly in Edinburgh for the last 11 years; I am a native of Longford, in Ireland; the first time I received parochial relief was two years ago. I supported myself for nine years in Edinburgh by my own industry, not having begged either by myself or family. I lived last in the Plain Stone Close, where I had a house to myself belonging to a Mr. Thompson, who has an office on the North Bridge; no part of my family till two years ago ever received hospital relief, when I took fever, and went into hospital; since that time I have been twice into hospital. I have been again receiving parochial relief since December up to Friday last, when I applied to the sheriff; the sheriff's clerk gave an order for temporary relief till I could get employment; my wife took the note to Mr. Ferguson, the relieving officer, who sent for us, kept us both in confinement in a room, which we were not permitted to leave till we went

Appendix, No. 4.

before the magistrates the following day, Saturday; the magistrates granted a warrant or removal order. I objected before the magistrates that I was a householder, and offered to produce evidence, which the magistrates would not allow me to bring forward. I was not allowed to go back to look after my furniture, but my wife was allowed to look after my goods. During the 11 years, I spent 10 years in the Grass Market; 10 years ago I removed to the West Bow, remained there one year, and went back to the Grass Market, where I constantly resided. I lived in Bird's Close for five years continuously when I first went to Edinburgh. Within three months I have lost two children, who were buried at the cost of the parish; I have no children now alive. I wish to go back to Edinburgh to support myself.

his
Michael × *Donnelly.*
mark.

Witness, *Edward Senior.*

Sworn before me at Belfast, 8th March 1848.

(signed) *Edward Senior.*

Mary Berry, passed from Edinburgh to Belfast, on her oath, saith:—"I have resided for the last five years, and kept a lodging-house in Edinburgh; my rent being 2*l.* 10*s.* a year. On the 1st of November last my husband was taken ill, and died; I did not apply for parochial relief, or for his funeral expenses. About the 20th December last I applied for parochial relief for the first time, and I obtained it till Tuesday last, when I was sent for and taken into custody, and removed to Belfast, on my way to King's County, contrary to my own will. I lived three years and six months in Blackfriars Wynd, in Edinburgh, which I left one year and 11 months ago; I returned to it on the 1st November, and have remained there till the date of my removal; neither myself nor my family have ever begged. I had no opportunity allowed me by the magistrates of proving that I had gained a settlement in Edinburgh. I am a native of King's County, Ireland.

her
Mary × *Berry.*
mark.

Witness, *Edward Senior.*

Sworn before me, at Belfast, 8th March 1848.

(signed) *Edward Senior.*

Appendix, No. 5.

Appendix, No. 5.

RETURNS transmitted by Mr. *C. Sharman Crawford*, with reference to Question 2060.

NORTH DUBLIN UNION.

RETURN of the Number of Persons receiving Relief on the 21st days of February and August, in each of the following Years.

	FEBRUARY.	AUGUST.
1849 - - - - - -	2,540	2,022
1850 - - - - - -	2,484	1,965
1851 - - - - - -	2,691	2,176
1852 - - - - - -	2,757	2,150
1853 - - - - - -	3,015	2,307
1854 - - - - - -	3,218	—

SOUTH DUBLIN UNION.

RETURN of the Number of Persons receiving Relief on the 21st days of February and August, in each of the following Years. Appendix, No. 5.

	FEBRUARY.	AUGUST.
1849 - - - - - -	2,957	2,194
1850 - - - - - -	3,023	2,603
1851 - - - - - -	3,235	2,802
1852 - - - - - -	3,445	2,734
1853 - - - - - -	3,661	2,677
1854 - - - - - -	4,238	—

LETTER from *J. Crean*, Clerk of the North Dublin Union, to the Right Honourable *M. T. Baines*, Chairman.

Board Room, North Dublin Union,
19 June 1854.

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Guardians to call your attention to the following statement of paupers, who, it appears, have been illegally removed to Dublin; viz:—

Catherine Walshe, native of Kilkenny, and two children, sent from London by the authorities. She states that she lived at No. 7, Stacey-street, for seven years, and that her husband is at present in London.

Anne Dickenson and two children, sent from Glasgow, states that her husband is in Glasgow, and that she resided in one parish for upwards of five years, and is a native of Wexford.

Catherine Ennis, aged 19 years, born in Queen's County, was sent from Halifax, Yorkshire, by the authorities; states that she resided in said town for upwards of five years; that she took fever, and was obliged to go to the infirmary, and when she was convalescent she was sent to Dublin.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Jef. Crean*,
Clerk of the Union.

Appendix, No. 6.

ABSTRACT of RETURNS from each Parish in *Scotland* of Removals of Poor Persons Born in *Ireland* and *Engl* in other Parishes, from 1846 to 1

FOR THE YEAR 1846.

COUNTIES.	Population in 1841.	Number of Poor, Casual and Registered, without Dependents.	No. I.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in Ireland, and Relieved in Scotland.						
			Number relieved, including Dependents.	Removed to Ireland at the Cost of the Parish.		Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement, but were not removed.	Ceased be Charge whe threat with Remov Irela
				By Warrant.	By Voluntary Arrangement.				
1. Aberdeen	192,893	7,011	32	-	1	-	24	4	-
2. Argyle	96,824	2,767	11	-	-	-	8	3	-
3. Ayr	164,477	4,490	1,131	-	26	1	763	260	1
4. Banff	48,463	1,913	12	-	-	-	5	6	-
5. Berwick	34,345	1,407	29	-	6	-	12	11	-
6. Bute	15,740	393	15	-	-	-	12	3	-
7. Caithness	37,410	1,662	4	-	-	-	-	-	
8. Clackmannan	20,041	744	35	-	1	-	13	12	
9. Dumbarton	46,005	992	154	1	18	-	30	50	-
10. Dumfries	72,855	2,540	383	1	5	-	118	251	
11. Edinburgh	225,276	9,885	1,521	233	60	-	361	745	29
12. Elgin or Moray	35,879	1,503	7	-	-	-	7	-	-
13. Fife	139,729	4,080	55	-	4	-	20	31	
14. Forfar	170,427	4,912	607	3	219	-	219	164	
15. Haddington	35,835	1,446	48	-	-	-	29	19	-
16. Inverness	98,417	2,729	4	-	-	-	4	-	-
17. Kincardine	33,550	1,325	9	-	1	-	8	-	-
18. Kinross	7,834	195	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Kirkcudbright	41,119	1,726	224	-	5	-	213	-	
20. Lanark	427,738	18,583	11,468	32	3,063	-	4,519	3,821	
21. Linlithgow	27,466	925	21	-	4	-	2	6	
22. Nairn	7,186	295	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Orkney and Shetland	61,065	1,567	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. Peebles	10,558	297	31	-	-	-	5	26	-
25. Perth	137,854	3,870	9	-	-	-	26	-	
26. Renfrew	154,160	6,308	1,973	10	262	5	1,322	390	13
27. Ross and Cromarty	79,941	3,099	3	-	-	-	3	-	-
28. Roxburgh	46,271	1,969	67	-	2	-	13	52	-
29. Selkirk	7,413	218	28	-	-	-	-	28	-
30. Stirling	80,535	1,733	80	4	10	-	46	18	1
31. Sutherland	23,715	877	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Wigton	39,195	1,848	879	5	11	-	752	161	7
TOTAL	2,620,184	96,326	18,841	289	3,698	6	8,534	6,061	488

FOR THE YEAR 1847.

1. Aberdeen	192,893	9,021	40	-	-	-	28	9	-
2. Argyle	96,824	3,706	10	-	-	-	7	3	-
3. Ayr	164,477	6,740	2,138	164	136	15	983	681	37
4. Banff	48,463	2,213	24	-	-	-	10	12	-
5. Berwick	34,345	1,508	59	-	13	-	9	38	-
6. Bute	15,740	464	46	-	6	-	32	8	-
7. Caithness	37,410	2,048	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
8. Clackmannan	20,041	677	51	-	1	-	12	16	2
9. Dumbarton	46,005	1,367	344	12	42	-	66	148	9
10. Dumfries	72,855	3,078	478	3	30	1	133	303	7
11. Edinburgh	225,276	12,499	3,263	46	451	1	322	1,805	590
12. Elgin or Moray	35,879	1,803	2	-	-	-	2	-	-
13. Fife	139,729	4,988	285	1	49	-	29	206	2
14. Forfar	170,427	5,937	882	2	262	-	250	367	1
15. Haddington	35,835	1,859	170	3	1	-	27	122	17
16. Inverness	98,417	5,951	4	-	-	-	3	1	-
17. Kincardine	33,550	1,536	17	-	-	-	9	4	4
18. Kinross	7,834	237	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Kirkcudbright	41,119	2,170	272	-	13	1	253	1	4
20. Lanark	427,738	49,497	25,674	100	8,047	-	8,827	8,661	2
21. Linlithgow	27,466	1,244	207	13	54	1	2	136	-
22. Nairn	7,186	316	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Orkney and Shetland	61,065	2,047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. Peebles	10,558	366	32	-	-	-	10	22	-
25. Perth	137,854	4,665	13	2	1	-	21	7	
26. Renfrew	154,160	8,531	4,438	16	1,124	12	2,133	1,212	27
27. Ross and Cromarty	79,941	4,149	3	-	-	-	3	-	-
28. Roxburgh	46,271	4,665	685	-	65	-	10	610	-
29. Selkirk	7,413	8,531	96	-	1	-	-	95	-
30. Stirling	80,535	2,709	241	6	31	-	75	128	
31. Sutherland	23,715	1,032	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Wigton	39,195	2,340	1,212	7	25	1	949	198	-
TOTAL	2,620,184	146,370	40,692	375	10,352	32	14,205	14,793	97

Appendix, No. 6.

Relieved in *Scotland*; also of Removals of Poor Persons Born or having a Settlement in *Scotland*, and Chargeable
usive, arranged according to Counties.

FOR THE YEAR 1846.

No. II.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in England, and Relieved in Scotland.								No. III.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born or having a Settlement in Scotland, and Chargeable in other Parishes.					
mber eved, nding endents	Removed to England at the Cost of the Parish. By Warrant.	Removed to England at the Cost of the Parish. By Voluntary Arrangement.	Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement, but were not removed.	Ceased to be Chargeable when threatened with removal to England.		Became Chargeable in other Parishes.	Removed to the Parish from other Parishes.	Residing in other Parishes.	Ceased to be Chargeable when required to remove.	Removed to the Parish. From England.	Removed to the Parish. From Ireland.
3	- -	- -	- -	3	- -	- -		317	10	615	- -	3	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -		86	9	73	8	—	—
39	- -	- -	- -	8	7	- -		223	3	281	1	—	—
6	- -	- -	- -	5	- -	- -		87	2	132	—	—	—
55	- -	- -	- -	51	4	- -		58	- -	262	- -	1	—
1	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -		15	- -	15	—	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -		64	- -	67	—	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -		28	6	21	1	—	—
7	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -		71	5	92	—	—	—
59	1	2	- -	21	34	- -		97	6	336	- -	9	—
187	3	19	- -	20	145	- -		320	43	334	6	—	—
7	- -	- -	- -	7	- -	- -		57	8	51	—	—	—
23	- -	- -	- -	8	14	- -		239	10	380	—	—	—
17	- -	- -	- -	17	- -	- -		401	14	745	—	—	—
3	- -	- -	- -	2	1	- -		61	1	178	—	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		63	3	53	1	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -		103	- -	230	—	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		10	- -	10	—	—	—
5	- -	- -	- -	5	- -	- -		62	- -	139	- -	6	—
566	11	283	- -	79	189	- -		912	410	577	- -	2	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		16	- -	24	—	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		17	- -	21	—	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		19	1	18	1	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -		25	- -	40	—	—	—
4	- -	- -	- -	4	- -	- -		224	3	381	—	—	—
84	- -	35	- -	40	1	- -		371	57	1,173	59	2	4
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -		57	1	67	—	—	—
38	- -	1	- -	13	24	- -		86	4	377	—	—	—
3	- -	- -	- -	- -	3	- -		9	- -	24	—	—	—
11	- -	- -	- -	7	1	- -		65	11	72	2	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -		27	2	26	1	—	—
13	- -	- -	- -	7	3	- -		69	13	170	- -	1	9
,138	15	340	- -	305	429	- -		4,259	622	6,984	80	24	13

FOR THE YEAR 1847.

9	- -	- -	- -	9	- -	- -		259	13	686	13	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -		102	28	109	17	—	—
71	- -	- -	- -	8	15	- -		413	65	449	41	—	—
8	- -	- -	- -	8	- -	- -		242	28	392	—	—	—
69	4	- -	- -	60	5	- -		116	3	321	—	—	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -		23	5	18	2	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -		62	- -	74	—	—	—
6	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -		11	7	9	—	—	—
5	- -	1	- -	4	- -	- -		84	5	117	—	—	—
73	- -	9	- -	23	41	- -		129	- -	370	- -	3	—
164	6	35	- -	21	102	- -		456	61	468	10	—	—
7	- -	- -	- -	7	- -	- -		36	3	74	1	—	—
27	- -	- -	- -	7	20	4		247	9	487	3	—	—
27	- -	- -	- -	24	3	- -		490	9	810	—	—	—
10	- -	2	- -	2	6	- -		68	1	214	—	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		74	9	64	2	—	—
2	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	- -		123	6	274	—	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		11	- -	18	—	—	—
8	- -	- -	- -	7	1	- -		51	- -	170	- -	1	—
765	21	363	- -	126	250	1		1,151	523	730	6	—	—
25	5	- -	- -	- -	20	- -		35	- -	39	—	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		14	- -	25	—	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		17	2	28	1	—	—
-	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -		8	- -	32	—	—	—
4	- -	1	- -	3	1	1		199	3	209	—	—	—
112	- -	27	- -	58	24	- -		801	140	1,334	103	5	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -		104	- -	127	—	—	—
56	- -	10	- -	17	28	- -		104	4	418	—	—	—
9	- -	2	- -	1	6	- -		5	- -	28	—	—	—
16	- -	1	- -	14	1	- -		108	2	122	—	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -		21	- -	34	—	—	—
14	- -	- -	- -	8	3	- -		105	12	213	- -	6	—
,494	36	451	- -	413	530	6		5,669	938	8,553	199	15	—

FOR THE YEAR 1848.

COUNTIES.	Population in 1841.	Number of Poor, Casual and Registered, without Dependents.	No. I.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in Ireland, and Relieved in Scotland.						
			Number relieved, including Dependents.	Removed to Ireland at the Cost of the Parish.		Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement, but were not removed.	Ceased to be Chargeable when threatened with Removal to Ireland.
				By Warrant.	By Voluntary Arrangement.				
1. Aberdeen	192,893	9,576	57	-	9	3	29	14	-
2. Argyle	96,824	3,847	34	1	1	1	30	2	-
3. Ayr	164,477	7,982	2,006	15	79	7	966	715	17
4. Banff	48,463	2,168	12	-	-	-	4	7	1
5. Berwick	34,345	1,739	61	-	1	-	8	51	-
6. Bute	15,740	443	38	-	-	-	25	13	-
7. Caithness	37,410	2,047	10	-	-	-	-	-	10
8. Clackmannan	20,041	938	64	-	-	-	5	10	8
9. Dumbarton	46,005	1,726	444	11	60	-	138	145	17
10. Dumfries	72,855	3,432	592	1	23	1	176	385	15
11. Edinburgh	225,276	20,071	2,659	228	592	7	220	1,085	495
12. Elgin or Moray	35,879	1,832	4	-	-	-	4	-	-
13. Fife	139,729	8,036	337	14	43	-	35	265	-
14. Forfar	170,427	7,160	1,128	7	536	10	343	232	-
15. Haddington	35,835	2,478	201	2	-	-	33	166	-
16. Inverness	98,417	4,284	4	-	-	-	4	-	-
17. Kincardine	33,550	1,630	17	-	-	-	7	10	-
18. Kinross	7,834	325	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Kirkcudbright	41,119	2,498	254	1	5	-	237	11	-
20. Lanark	427,738	104,623	32,694	227	7,866	20	13,502	10,942	111
21. Linlithgow	27,466	1,861	207	67	10	3	4	123	1
22. Nairn	7,186	329	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
23. Orkney and Shetland	61,065	2,007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. Peebles	10,558	383	24	-	5	-	6	13	-
25. Perth	137,854	5,610	39	14	1	-	27	11	7
26. Renfrew	154,160	11,599	3,837	81	685	32	2,037	1,047	388
27. Ross and Cromarty	79,941	4,079	3	-	-	3	-	-	-
28. Roxburgh	46,271	4,550	559	-	13	-	12	518	-
29. Selkirk	7,413	2,710	196	-	-	-	-	196	-
30. Stirling	80,535	4,011	291	-	24	-	123	142	-
31. Sutherland	23,715	1,042	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Wigton	39,195	2,829	1,397	13	56	1	921	345	7
TOTAL	2,620,184	227,645	47,170	682	10,009	88	18,897	16,448	1,072

FOR THE YEAR 1849.

1. Aberdeen	192,893	8,601	54	-	-	-	35	14	-
2. Argyle	96,824	4,040	30	-	-	-	28	2	-
3. Ayr	164,477	11,018	2,233	13	80	8	966	829	15
4. Banff	48,463	2,117	12	-	-	-	5	2	-
5. Berwick	34,345	1,736	68	-	2	-	7	59	-
6. Bute	15,740	486	40	-	-	-	28	12	-
7. Caithness	37,410	2,116	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
8. Clackmannan	20,041	1,105	77	-	4	-	-	7	7
9. Dumbarton	46,005	1,886	349	10	42	-	118	127	10
10. Dumfries	72,855	3,548	569	10	33	2	135	366	12
11. Edinburgh	225,276	19,728	1,602	372	269	9	158	465	295
12. Elgin or Moray	35,879	1,892	7	-	-	-	3	4	-
13. Fife	139,729	8,717	209	1	18	-	27	163	1
14. Forfar	170,427	6,674	666	5	60	-	374	227	-
15. Haddington	35,835	2,499	158	1	3	-	28	126	5
16. Inverness	98,417	4,379	8	-	-	-	7	1	-
17. Kincardine	33,550	1,589	16	-	-	-	15	1	-
18. Kinross	7,834	304	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Kirkcudbright	41,119	2,664	270	-	11	-	234	24	-
20. Lanark	427,738	76,260	27,352	445	5,614	14	11,622	9,469	106
21. Linlithgow	27,466	1,951	128	24	5	-	5	93	-
22. Nairn	7,186	313	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Orkney and Shetland	61,065	1,900	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. Peebles	10,558	382	23	-	-	-	5	17	-
25. Perth	137,854	15,483	38	2	-	-	30	20	4
26. Renfrew	154,160	13,759	2,944	32	373	16	1,907	666	183
27. Ross and Cromarty	79,941	4,233	4	-	-	-	3	1	-
28. Roxburgh	46,271	4,155	357	-	11	2	9	338	-
29. Selkirk	7,413	1,288	225	-	11	-	-	214	-
30. Stirling	80,535	3,404	226	4	28	-	117	86	2
31. Sutherland	23,715	1,092	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Wigton	39,195	2,905	1,264	15	30	-	883	295	15
TOTAL	2,620,184	202,320	38,932	934	6,594	51	16,749	13,628	658

- - - - - - - - - FOR THE YEAR 1848.

No. II.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in England, and Relieved in Scotland.							No. III.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born or having a Settlement in Scotland, and Chargeable in other Parishes.					
Number relieved, including Dependents	Removed to England at the Cost of the Parish. By Warrant.	Removed to England at the Cost of the Parish. By Voluntary Arrangement.	Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement, but were not removed.	Ceased to be Chargeable when threatened with Removal to England.	Became Chargeable in other Parishes.	Removed to the Parish from other Parishes.	Residing in other Parishes.	Ceased to be Chargeable when required to remove.	Removed to the Parish. From England.	Removed to the Parish. From Ireland.
11	- -	- -	- -	2	9	- -	331	28	738	11	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	152	23	163	11	—	—
124	- -	20	- -	10	21	- -	467	61	552	22	—	—
4	- -	- -	- -	4	- -	- -	118	13	217	1	—	—
67	- -	- -	- -	60	7	- -	77	6	297	1	—	—
6	- -	4	- -	2	- -	- -	22	- -	22	—	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -	66	2	85	—	—	—
9	- -	- -	- -	3	- -	- -	26	6	26	—	—	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	89	3	129	- -	- -	6
118	2	17	- -	25	75	- -	120	5	396	- -	1	—
202	17	46	- -	36	103	- -	684	120	582	11	13	—
6	- -	- -	- -	6	- -	- -	47	3	71	4	—	—
22	- -	2	- -	8	12	- -	321	21	593	1	—	—
28	- -	- -	- -	25	3	- -	569	38	879	- -	- -	6
9	- -	2	- -	2	5	- -	80	- -	270	- -	4	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	139	18	125	5	1	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	111	1	295	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	12	—	—	—
8	- -	- -	- -	7	1	- -	73	3	190	- -	1	—
1,121	45	556	- -	144	365	11	2,058	811	895	90	2	—
9	- -	- -	- -	- -	9	- -	50	6	73	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	6	- -	33	—	—	—
3	- -	3	- -	- -	- -	- -	17	1	29	3	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	21	- -	46	—	—	—
3	- -	- -	- -	2	1	- -	227	19	507	2	—	—
108	- -	52	- -	40	6	- -	962	159	1,477	122	14	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	88	1	123	2	—	—
33	- -	2	- -	12	15	- -	91	5	414	—	—	—
19	- -	- -	3	- -	16	- -	9	- -	33	—	—	—
7	- -	1	- -	6	- -	- -	178	22	156	16	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	16	2	28	—	—	—
15	- -	- -	- -	8	4	- -	85	17	217	—	—	—
1,939	64	705	3	407	654	11	7,281	1,394	9,673	302	36	12

- - - - - - - - - FOR THE YEAR 1849.

23	- -	2	- -	7	19	- -	339	37	722	6	—	—
2	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	128	17	142	20	—	—
198	- -	6	- -	12	31	1	512	54	605	29	5	—
7	- -	- -	- -	2	4	- -	119	19	225	1	5	—
71	7	- -	- -	60	4	- -	110	4	324	- -	7	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	23	- -	28	—	—	—
4	- -	3	- -	1	- -	- -	70	2	97	2	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	49	3	44	1	—	—
3	- -	- -	- -	3	- -	- -	108	5	114	3	1	—
103	11	12	3	26	52	- -	140	7	407	- -	7	—
174	13	28	- -	23	110	- -	588	97	571	21	7	—
6	- -	- -	- -	6	- -	- -	53	- -	86	5	—	—
23	- -	3	- -	11	9	- -	315	34	615	7	—	—
18	- -	- -	- -	18	- -	- -	578	51	915	- -	4	—
23	1	6	- -	2	14	- -	110	2	293	- -	5	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	132	8	149	5	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	101	3	297	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	7	- -	19	—	—	—
14	- -	5	- -	8	1	- -	107	7	215	- -	1	—
764	79	289	- -	138	253	7	1,881	826	1,129	99	6	—
4	- -	- -	- -	- -	4	- -	44	6	76	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	7	4	34	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	25	3	38	2	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	23	4	66	—	—	—
3	- -	- -	- -	3	- -	- -	223	11	607	2	1	—
89	- -	38	- -	37	10	- -	674	110	1,371	73	7	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	124	5	151	6	—	—
50	- -	16	- -	12	17	- -	89	3	422	—	—	—
10	- -	- -	- -	- -	10	- -	25	- -	56	—	—	—
6	- -	- -	- -	5	1	- -	154	8	209	4	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	26	1	38	—	—	—
22	- -	- -	- -	8	4	- -	70	10	236	1	—	—
1,623	111	408	3	386	546	8	6,954	1,341	10,301	287	56	—

FOR THE YEAR 1850.

COUNTIES.	Population in 1841.	Number of Poor, Casual and Registered, without Dependents.	No. I.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in Ireland, and Relieved in Scotland.						
			Number relieved, including Dependents.	Removed to Ireland at the Cost of the Parish.		Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement, but were not removed.	Ceased to be Chargeable when threatened with Removal to Ireland.
				By Warrant.	By Voluntary Arrangement.				
1. Aberdeen	192,893	6,720	85	3	-	-	47	32	-
2. Argyle	96,824	4,268	46	15	-	2	29	2	2
3. Ayr	164,477	10,493	2,180	4	52	8	1,212	692	21
4. Banff	48,463	2,122	11	-	-	-	4	3	-
5. Berwick	34,345	1,830	66	-	2	-	8	56	-
6. Bute	15,740	534	33	-	-	-	22	11	-
7. Caithness	37,410	2,902	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
8. Clackmannan	20,041	921	48	-	1	-	1	8	2
9. Dumbarton	46,005	1,800	230	5	22	-	76	69	7
10. Dumfries	72,855	3,691	530	15	34	18	154	336	5
11. Edinburgh	225,276	14,681	1,723	380	73	5	159	727	352
12. Elgin or Moray	35,879	1,699	8	-	-	-	2	6	-
13. Fife	139,729	7,337	146	-	8	-	25	113	-
14. Forfar	170,427	6,577	722	7	59	-	366	289	1
15. Haddington	35,835	2,206	169	-	2	3	32	135	10
16. Inverness	98,417	4,418	2	-	-	-	2	-	-
17. Kincardine	33,550	1,447	15	-	1	-	11	3	-
18. Kinross	7,834	257	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Kirkcudbright	41,119	3,620	244	8	5	5	219	16	-
20. Lanark	427,738	42,674	19,802	452	3,550	13	8,532	5,772	1,452
21. Linlithgow	27,466	1,734	92	25	2	4	7	58	-
22. Nairn	7,186	322	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Orkney and Shetland	61,065	1,926	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
24. Peebles	10,558	410	28	4	-	-	10	13	-
25. Perth	137,854	5,426	29	6	-	2	30	11	3
26. Renfrew	154,160	9,697	2,210	25	133	14	1,489	568	192
27. Ross and Cromarty	79,941	4,162	3	-	-	-	3	-	-
28. Roxburgh	46,271	3,063	353	-	16	-	7	333	-
29. Selkirk	7,413	932	215	-	-	-	-	215	-
30. Stirling	80,535	3,020	177	4	3	3	71	93	8
31. Sutherland	23,715	1,144	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Wigton	39,195	2,490	1,346	7	36	15	961	323	6
TOTAL	2,620,184	154,524	30,519	960	3,999	92	13,479	9,885	2,066

FOR THE YEAR 1851.

1. Aberdeen	192,893	7,218	74	6	4	-	29	34	1
2. Argyle	96,824	4,428	23	-	-	-	22	1	-
3. Ayr	164,477	10,207	2,135	37	45	5	1,278	596	13
4. Banff	48,463	2,139	10	-	-	-	4	2	-
5. Berwick	34,345	1,609	44	2	4	-	11	27	-
6. Bute	15,740	504	43	-	-	-	30	13	-
7. Caithness	37,410	2,084	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
8. Clackmannan	20,041	991	54	-	-	-	-	8	-
9. Dumbarton	46,005	1,634	218	8	20	3	85	61	1
10. Dumfries	72,855	3,767	593	16	10	4	134	415	8
11. Edinburgh	225,276	15,342	1,282	328	33	3	152	493	258
12. Elgin or Moray	35,879	1,661	11	1	-	-	2	8	-
13. Fife	139,729	4,980	107	-	16	-	27	64	-
14. Forfar	170,427	6,135	797	5	53	3	493	243	-
15. Haddington	35,835	2,076	172	21	-	-	33	117	1
16. Inverness	98,417	6,031	3	-	-	-	3	-	-
17. Kincardine	33,550	1,514	15	-	-	-	11	-	4
18. Kinross	7,834	229	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Kirkcudbright	41,119	2,728	262	-	5	-	249	7	1
20. Lanark	427,738	33,711	16,392	299	3,508	3	6,625	4,230	1,680
21. Linlithgow	27,466	1,640	86	10	9	-	10	57	7
22. Nairn	7,186	325	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Orkney and Shetland	61,065	2,027	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
24. Peebles	10,558	387	32	5	3	-	11	13	-
25. Perth	137,854	5,215	29	5	4	-	32	10	3
26. Renfrew	154,160	8,765	2,314	17	140	17	1,505	666	279
27. Ross and Cromarty	79,941	4,003	3	-	-	-	3	-	-
28. Roxburgh	46,271	2,766	150	-	10	-	13	107	-
29. Selkirk	7,413	844	165	-	-	-	-	165	-
30. Stirling	80,535	3,080	212	11	14	4	71	113	1
31. Sutherland	23,715	1,185	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Wigton	39,195	2,495	1,352	5	41	2	1,029	254	8
TOTAL	2,620,184	141,870	26,586	776	3,919	44	11,862	7,705	2,272

- - - - - - - - - FOR THE YEAR 1850.

No. II.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in England, and Relieved in Scotland.							No. III.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born or having a Settlement in Scotland, and Chargeable in other Parishes.					
Number relieved, including Dependents	Removed to England at the Cost of the Parish. By Warrant.	Removed to England at the Cost of the Parish. By Voluntary Arrangement.	Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement but were not removed.	Ceased to be Chargeable when threatened with Removal to England.	Became Chargeable in other Parishes.	Removed to the Parish from other Parishes.	Residing in other Parishes.	Ceased to be Chargeable when required to remove.	Removed to the Parish. From England.	Removed to the Parish. From Ireland.
39	- -	7	- -	2	24	- -	339	50	816	9	4	—
5	- -	- -	- -	4	1	- -	181	31	199	22	—	—
185	- -	5	- -	15	41	- -	503	49	674	27	6	—
8	- -	- -	- -	2	4	- -	152	10	269	- -	2	—
72	4	- -	- -	60	8	- -	90	1	312	—	—	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	22	- -	21	—	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -	80	6	104	2	—	—
3	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	30	- -	63	2	—	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	111	6	141	4	—	—
135	6	7	- -	36	78	2	149	20	322	1	6	—
156	18	11	- -	30	91	11	519	89	596	34	8	—
6	- -	- -	- -	6	- -	- -	43	- -	99	2	—	—
15	- -	1	- -	10	4	- -	302	32	629	13	—	—
16	- -	- -	- -	16	- -	- -	562	31	918	- -	1	—
9	- -	- -	- -	6	3	- -	109	13	318	1	- -	3
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	125	16	134	23	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	94	- -	300	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	3	- -	15	—	—	—
19	- -	8	- -	10	1	- -	112	4	257	3	4	—
652	38	236	- -	127	153	98	1,670	755	1,166	72	5	—
11	3	- -	- -	3	5	- -	48	9	90	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	10	- -	39	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	29	7	46	9	—	—
1	1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	15	- -	72	—	—	—
3	- -	- -	- -	3	- -	- -	125	5	380	2	3	—
68	- -	18	- -	34	15	- -	687	134	1,281	116	9	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	148	3	199	11	—	—
39	- -	1	- -	21	14	- -	81	4	435	- -	3	—
10	- -	- -	- -	- -	10	- -	16	- -	51	—	—	—
8	- -	- -	- -	6	2	- -	127	6	188	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	28	- -	40	1	—	—
20	- -	- -	- -	8	3	- -	89	11	277	1	3	—
1,487	70	294	- -	406	460	111	6,599	1,292	10,551	355	54	3

- - - - - - - - - FOR THE YEAR 1851.

34	5	16	- -	3	10	- -	425	42	902	8	4	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	182	16	252	31	—	—
176	- -	7	- -	14	30	- -	526	33	786	17	3	—
4	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	127	2	258	—	—	—
62	- -	- -	- -	53	9	- -	77	1	293	- -	2	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	25	- -	34	—	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	- -	84	- -	109	—	—	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	32	4	73	—	—	—
8	- -	2	- -	2	4	- -	104	7	161	4	—	—
123	5	3	- -	33	82	2	163	4	470	4	4	—
133	36	8	1	25	59	5	600	149	636	20	10	—
9	- -	- -	- -	8	1	- -	76	18	99	3	—	—
23	- -	- -	- -	10	13	- -	307	25	630	11	1	—
25	- -	- -	- -	24	1	- -	510	32	879	1	—	—
12	- -	- -	- -	4	8	- -	95	3	334	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	192	19	167	8	1	—
2	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	97	5	288	1	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	13	—	—	—
18	- -	3	- -	11	4	- -	86	10	285	- -	4	—
634	19	226	- -	133	151	104	1,944	775	1,127	211	18	—
15	- -	- -	- -	4	9	- -	50	10	130	—	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	7	- -	42	1	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	32	3	51	10	—	—
- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	28	1	98	—	—	—
7	- -	- -	- -	2	3	- -	210	18	720	8	—	—
63	- -	9	- -	37	12	- -	892	197	1,140	171	8	—
2	- -	- -	- -	2	- -	- -	149	9	211	7	—	—
60	1	10	1	25	17	- -	88	6	456	3	4	—
8	1	- -	- -	1	6	- -	8	- -	46	—	—	—
8	- -	- -	- -	6	1	- -	199	16	243	27	1	—
1	- -	- -	- -	- -	1	- -	16	1	39	1	—	—
19	7	- -	- -	7	3	- -	113	10	330	2	—	—
1,451	74	284	2	409	427	111	7,446	1,416	11,302	549	60	—

FOR THE YEAR 1852.

COUNTIES.	Population in 1851.	Number of Poor, Casual and Registered, without Dependents.	No. I.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in Ireland, and Relieved in Scotland.						
			Number relieved, including Dependents.	Removed to Ireland at the Cost of the Parish.		Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement, but were not removed.	Ceased to be Chargeable when threatened with Removal to Ireland.
				By Warrant.	By Voluntary Arrangement.				
1. Aberdeen	212,711	8,204	80	8	1	-	38	30	3
2. Argyle	88,807	4,805	43	-	2	-	37	4	2
3. Ayr	189,973	12,256	2,719	3	55	5	1,515	850	31
4. Banff	53,141	2,158	10	-	-	-	3	4	-
5. Berwick	36,165	1,644	60	-	-	-	10	48	-
6. Bute	16,608	505	47	-	-	-	24	23	-
7. Caithness	39,782	1,729	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Clackmannan	24,106	1,174	58	-	6	-	1	9	1
9. Dumbarton	46,995	1,714	212	2	13	2	68	95	-
10. Dumfries	78,149	3,890	534	6	9	1	138	362	9
11. Edinburgh	259,493	13,019	1,023	363	97	2	143	206	219
12. Elgin or Moray	39,494	1,721	11	-	-	-	2	9	-
13. Fife	153,789	5,267	109	12	1	1	30	66	-
14. Forfar	191,247	5,088	802	6	52	-	531	214	-
15. Haddington	36,363	1,882	130	2	1	-	27	100	2
16. Inverness	97,189	6,679	5	-	-	-	5	-	-
17. Kincardine	34,944	1,508	12	-	-	-	9	3	-
18. Kinross	8,005	164	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Kirkcudbright	43,121	2,263	285	-	9	-	250	19	7
20. Lanark	533,169	31,974	12,646	199	1,495	8	6,030	3,656	1,196
21. Linlithgow	30,590	1,664	123	20	8	2	19	74	-
22. Nairn	8,076	314	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Orkney and Shetland	62,533	2,110	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
24. Peebles	10,804	377	43	-	-	-	11	32	-
25. Perth	138,377	5,169	26	1	-	-	25	13	-
26. Renfrew	157,950	11,240	2,224	51	169	16	1,497	518	149
27. Ross and Cromarty	83,781	5,195	4	-	-	-	3	1	-
28. Roxburgh	51,895	2,686	140	2	5	-	11	118	3
29. Selkirk	9,132	756	142	1	-	-	2	139	1
30. Stirling	84,244	3,325	301	15	9	-	117	161	-
31. Sutherland	24,720	1,184	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Wigton	43,389	2,336	1,377	18	34	11	1,067	247	8
	2,888,742	145,668	23,167	709	1,966	48	11,613	7,002	1,631

FOR THE YEAR 1853.

1. Aberdeen	212,711	7,998	70	-	1	1	33	33	1
2. Argyle	88,807	4,775	50	-	4	-	35	7	4
3. Ayr	189,973	22,610	2,807	14	50	1	1,548	889	21
4. Banff	53,141	2,196	6	-	-	-	3	-	-
5. Berwick	36,165	1,614	53	-	-	-	10	40	3
6. Bute	16,608	533	48	-	-	-	34	14	-
7. Caithness	39,782	1,756	8	-	-	-	-	1	7
8. Clackmannan	24,106	1,064	66	-	-	-	-	9	3
9. Dumbarton	46,995	1,879	164	1	12	1	71	62	7
10. Dumfries	78,149	4,217	568	11	6	2	152	392	8
11. Edinburgh	259,493	13,525	1,074	202	55	4	195	409	209
12. Elgin or Moray	39,494	1,828	25	-	4	-	11	10	-
13. Fife	153,789	5,149	108	1	6	1	22	89	5
14. Forfar	191,247	6,626	939	1	83	3	544	325	14
15. Haddington	36,363	1,840	113	3	1	-	33	76	8
16. Inverness	97,189	4,754	6	-	-	-	5	1	-
17. Kincardine	34,944	1,502	23	-	-	-	12	11	-
18. Kinross	8,005	287	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Kirkcudbright	43,121	2,288	282	-	5	-	235	42	15
20. Lanark	533,169	28,215	10,923	44	793	5	5,413	3,315	1,309
21. Linlithgow	30,590	1,787	119	11	12	2	30	71	11
22. Nairn	8,076	324	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Orkney and Shetland	62,533	2,042	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
24. Peebles	10,804	392	37	3	-	3	11	23	2
25. Perth	138,377	5,093	44	4	4	-	36	25	13
26. Renfrew	157,950	10,635	2,001	42	117	15	1,398	476	110
27. Ross and Cromarty	83,781	4,207	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
28. Roxburgh	51,895	2,619	131	8	3	-	8	111	-
29. Selkirk	9,132	523	72	-	-	-	2	70	-
30. Stirling	84,244	3,707	254	12	12	1	114	113	2
31. Sutherland	24,720	1,170	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Wigton	43,389	2,202	1,352	5	30	1	977	304	12
TOTAL	2,888,742	149,267	21,345	362	1,198	40	10,932	6,919	1,765

FOR THE YEAR 1852.

No. II.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in England, and Relieved in Scotland.							No. III.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born or having a Settlement in Scotland, and Chargeable in other Parishes.					
Number relieved, including Dependents.	Removed to England at the Cost of the Parish.		Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement, but were not removed.	Ceased to be Chargeable when threatened with Removal to England.	Became Chargeable in other Parishes.	Removed to the Parish from other Parishes.	Residing in other Parishes.	Ceased to be Chargeable when required to remove.	Removed to the Parish.	
	By Warrant.	By Voluntary Arrangement.									From England.	From Ireland.
25	-	-	-	8	13	-	398	63	500	16	—	—
1	-	-	-	-	1	-	182	34	263	26	—	—
223	-	9	-	16	47	-	642	47	855	23	1	—
4	-	-	-	2	-	-	135	11	267	1	—	—
63	4	3	-	42	17	-	93	15	284	-	4	—
2	-	-	-	2	-	-	24	-	34	2	—	—
1	-	-	-	1	-	-	111	3	137	5	—	—
5	-	4	-	-	-	-	46	10	86	3	1	—
3	-	-	-	2	1	-	234	15	198	5	—	—
149	7	10	-	34	97	-	145	4	506	-	6	—
130	34	21	-	19	48	8	888	183	914	25	17	—
9	-	-	-	8	1	-	52	2	86	-	1	—
20	-	-	-	11	9	4	270	20	585	17	—	—
32	-	3	-	29	-	-	845	62	1,521	17	—	—
19	-	3	-	4	12	-	98	8	347	1	—	—
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	168	22	215	16	—	—
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141	4	344	—	—	—
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	21	—	—	—
17	-	5	-	10	2	-	90	-	287	31	—	—
493	24	163	-	116	115	75	1,880	773	1,125	118	28	—
4	-	-	-	4	-	-	50	18	117	—	—	—
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	46	—	—	—
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	9	58	6	—	—
2	-	-	-	1	1	-	15	-	103	—	—	—
11	-	-	-	2	7	-	175	22	715	2	—	—
69	-	12	1	37	10	-	796	211	1,028	172	6	—
2	-	-	-	2	-	-	155	10	227	4	—	—
48	3	6	-	25	14	-	93	1	450	11	—	—
10	-	-	-	-	10	-	6	-	46	—	—	—
10	-	-	-	7	3	-	185	17	216	39	—	—
1	-	-	-	-	1	-	20	4	36	1	—	—
12	-	1	-	6	3	-	104	8	331	—	—	—
1,365	72	240	1	388	412	87	8,087	1,576	11,948	541	64	—

FOR THE YEAR 1853.

19	-	1	-	2	12	-	468	41	942	12	—	—
2	-	1	-	-	1	-	266	40	357	48	1	—
246	-	1	-	18	90	-	604	39	888	29	13	—
10	-	-	-	3	5	-	171	14	280	8	2	—
55	2	-	-	36	14	3	93	-	310	-	6	—
2	-	-	-	2	-	-	35	-	72	3	—	—
1	-	-	-	1	-	-	108	5	178	3	—	—
5	-	4	-	-	-	-	28	9	91	6	—	—
7	-	-	-	3	-	-	140	10	223	7	2	—
167	-	1	-	38	105	-	167	1	581	13	3	—
142	36	23	1	13	66	4	766	149	867	54	24	—
10	-	1	-	8	1	-	67	8	132	7	—	—
20	-	-	-	16	4	-	295	32	607	10	4	—
20	-	-	-	21	8	-	601	29	972	-	3	—
16	-	-	-	11	5	-	99	6	368	1	1	—
2	-	2	-	-	-	-	193	22	233	23	—	—
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107	7	336	2	—	—
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	20	—	—	—
20	-	9	-	11	-	-	85	1	326	8	—	—
424	3	131	-	110	113	77	1,870	760	1,270	108	35	—
8	3	-	-	3	-	-	50	7	126	-	3	—
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	1	44	3	—	—
1	-	1	-	-	-	-	27	3	54	11	—	—
1	-	-	-	1	-	-	27	8	109	—	—	—
10	-	-	-	4	4	-	249	27	698	3	2	—
46	6	9	-	17	10	1	691	154	1,032	157	1	—
2	-	-	-	2	-	-	163	3	223	16	—	—
49	-	4	-	16	23	2	117	9	472	11	—	—
12	-	-	-	-	12	-	9	-	49	—	—	—
13	-	5	-	5	3	-	233	19	287	12	—	—
1	-	-	-	-	1	-	26	5	45	1	—	—
14	-	1	-	9	3	-	103	14	334	8	-	1
1,334	50	194	1	350	480	87	7,871	1,423	12,526	564	100	1

GENERAL SUMMARY - - - - - - - -

	Population in 1841.	Number of Poor, Casual and Registered, without Dependents.	No. I.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in Ireland, and Relieved in Scotland.						
			Number relieved, including Dependents.	Removed to Ireland at the Cost of the Parish.		Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement, but were not removed.	Ceased to be Chargeable when threatened with Removal to Ireland.
				By Warrant.	By Voluntary Arrangement.				
For all parishes in Scotland, with the exception of those mentioned below, from which no return has been received:									
For year 1846 - -		96,326	18,841	289	3,698	6	8,534	6,061	488
„ 1847 - -		146,370	40,692	375	10,352	32	14,205	14,793	997
„ 1848 - -	2,620,184	227,645	47,170	682	10,009	88	18,897	16,448	1,072
„ 1849 - -		202,320	38,932	934	6,594	51	16,749	13,628	658
„ 1850 - -		154,524	30,519	960	3,999	92	13,479	9,885	2,066
„ 1851 - -		141,870	26,586	776	3,919	44	11,862	7,705	2,272
„ 1852 - -	Ditto in 1851.	145,668	23,167	709	1,966	48	11,613	7,002	1,631
„ 1853 - -	2,888,742	149,267	21,345	362	1,198	40	10,932	6,919	1,765
TOTAL - - -	- - -	1,263,990	247,252	5,087	41,735	401	106,271	82,441	10,949
Average for the Eight Years above specified - -	- - -	107,998 $\frac{3}{4}$	30,906 $\frac{1}{2}$	635 $\frac{7}{8}$	5,216 $\frac{7}{8}$	50 $\frac{1}{8}$	13,283 $\frac{7}{8}$	10,305 $\frac{1}{8}$	1,368 $\frac{5}{8}$

Parishes making no Return - - -	Ellon - - - - - - - - -	3,324
	Kincardine O'Neill - - - - - -	2,098
	Islay - - - - - - - - -	12,334
	West Kilbride - - - - - - -	2,021
	Coldingham - - - - - - -	3,188
	Scoonie - - - - - - - -	3,115
	Barra - - - - - - - -	1,873
	Harris - - - - - - - -	4,250

GENERAL SUMMARY.

No. II.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born in England, and Relieved in Scotland.							No. III.—Removals of Poor Persons, Born or having a Settlement in Scotland, and Chargeable in other Parishes.					
Number relieved, including Dependents.	Removed to England at the Cost of the Parish.		Removed, and again Chargeable to the same Parish.	Not removable, having gained a Settlement in Scotland.	Had not gained a Settlement, but were not removed.	Ceased to be Chargeable when threatened with removal to England.	Became Chargeable in other Parishes.	Removed to the Parish from other Parishes.	Residing in other Parishes.	Ceased to be Chargeable when required to remove.	Removed to the Parish.	
	By Warrant.	By Voluntary Arrangement.									From England.	From Ireland.
1,138	15	340	- -	305	429	- -	4,259	622	6,984	80	24	13
1,494	36	451	- -	413	530	6	5,669	938	8,553	199	15	—
1,939	64	705	3	407	654	11	7,281	1,394	9,673	302	36	12
1,623	111	408	3	386	546	8	6,954	1,341	10,301	287	56	—
1,487	70	294	- -	406	460	111	6,599	1,292	10,551	355	54	3
1,451	74	284	2	409	427	111	7,446	1,416	11,302	549	60	—
1,365	72	240	1	388	412	87	8,087	1,576	11,948	541	64	—
1,334	50	194	1	350	480	87	7,871	1,423	12,526	564	100	1
11,831	492	2,916	10	3,064	3,938	421	54,166	10,002	81,838	2,877	409	29
1,478 7/8	61 1/2	364 1/2	1 1/4	383	492 1/4	52 5/8	6,770 6/8	1,250 1/4	10,229 6/8	359 5/8	51 1/8	3 5/8

Parishes making no Return - - - -	Fossaway - - - - - - - -	1,621
	Delting (Shetland) - - - - - -	2,124
	Yell (Shetland) - - - - - -	1,741
	Kiltearn (Ross) - - - - - -	1,538
	Kincardine (Ross) - - - - - -	1,896
	Uig, Lewis (Ross) - - - - - -	3,209
	Tongue (Sutherland) - - - - - -	2,018

Appendix, No. 7.

Appendix, No. 7.

COMMUNICATIONS addressed to the CHAIRMAN of the Select Committee, by English BOARDS of GUARDIANS and POOR LAW AUTHORITIES, relative to particular Cases of alleged WRONGFUL REMOVAL, which have been specified in detail by Witnesses examined before the Committee.

THESE Communications were in answer to the following Letter, which was addressed, *mutatis mutandis*, to each of the Boards of Guardians with respect to whom such imputations were made:

Sir, Poor Law Board, Whitehall, June 1854.

I AM directed by the Poor Law Board to transmit to you for the information of the Guardians of the accompanying extracts from evidence just given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the subject of the removal of Irish and Scotch Paupers. I am instructed to add, that if the guardians or their officers are desirous of making any statement or observations with reference to these cases, and if they will forward them to the President of this Board (who is Chairman of the Select Committee) he will readily undertake to lay them before the Committee without delay.

I am, &c.

To the Clerk of the Guardians, (signed) Secretary.
&c. &c. &c.

The following Answers have been received:

1.—From the DIRECTORS of the Poor of *St. Margaret* and *St. John, Westminster.*

[See the Case of *Mary Callaghan*, Questions 1826, 1861; and the Cases of *Harriett Gardiner* and *Catherine Rogers*, Appendix, 2.]

St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster,

Sir, Workhouse, Petty France, 1 June 1854.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from the Poor Law Board, dated yesterday, enclosing an extract from evidence just given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the subject of the removal of Irish and Scotch paupers, and in reply thereto, I beg respectfully to state that from the careful inquiries I have made, it appears that Mary Callaghan and five children, the parties referred to in the evidence of R. Cusack, Esq., were in receipt of out-door relief from the beginning of July until the 24th of September 1853, when it appearing she had no means of maintaining herself without permanent parochial relief, an order for her admission into the workhouse was given to her, with a distinct intimation she would be removed to Ireland, and on the 27th of September she presented the order at the workhouse, and was thereupon admitted.

She was brought before the Board of Governors and Directors of the Poor on the 6th of October following, when it appeared that both she and her husband (who had deserted her and gone to settle in America) were born in Ireland, and that neither had gained a settlement in England, and being removable to Dublin, her native place (see R. *v.* Much Hoole, 21 Law Journal, 1 M) or Archbold 687), the Board ordered the necessary steps to be taken to procure her removal to Ireland.

That accordingly, she and her children were on the 11th of October 1853, taken from the workhouse before the magistrates sitting at the Sessions House, Westminster; when after due inquiry into the circumstances of the case, they made an order for the removal of this family to Ireland, a copy of which order I enclose.

Pursuant to this order, and on the following day, the family were taken from the workhouse by the constable to whom the order is directed, and delivered by him with the original order of removal to Mr. R. G. Baker, the agent at the depôt provided by him under the regulations made by the Justices for the county of Middlesex, for carrying into execution the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117.

Perhaps

Perhaps I may be permitted to add, that we have had many cases of men leaving their wives and families and emigrating to America; the wife being a consenting party, they knowing the family must be supported by the parish, and that such cases are always natives of Ireland.

I have, &c.

To the Right Hon. M. T. Baines, M. P., Chairman. (signed) *Edward Spooner*, Clerk.

Middlesex, to wit. To the Constables of the Parish of *St. Margaret*, in the City and Liberty of *Westminster*, in the County of *Middlesex*.

Whereas complaint hath been made by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the parish of St. Margaret, in the city and liberty of Westminster, in the county of Middlesex, unto us, whose names are hereunto set and seals affixed, two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the said county (one being of the quorum), that Mary Callaghan, aged 35 years, a person born in the county of Dublin, hath become and is now actually chargeable to the said parish; and whereas, upon examination of Charles Nicholson, taken upon oath before us (which examination is hereunto annexed), it doth appear, and we do adjudge, that the said Mary Callaghan was born in Ireland, and hath not gained a settlement in England; and that she hath a husband named John, who is now absent from her, and five children; *videlicet*, Mary, aged nine years; Margaret, aged seven years; Jeremiah, aged five years; John, aged three years, and Daniel, aged one year; neither of which children have gained any settlement in England.

These are therefore to require you the said constable of the said parish, in the county of Middlesex aforesaid, to convey the said Mary Callaghan and family aforesaid, to Ireland, in the manner directed by the Justices of the said county of Middlesex, and approved by the Right honourable Sir James Robert George Graham, Baronet, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, in pursuance of the provisions of a certain Act made and passed in the Ninth year of the reign of Queen Victoria, intituled "An Act to amend the Laws relating to the Removal of Persons born in Scotland, Ireland, the Islands of Man, Scilly, Jersey, or Guernsey, and chargeable in England."

Given under our hands and seals this 11th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1853.

Aug. Robinson. (L. S.)
T. S. Cocks, Jun. (L. S.)

St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster,
Workhouse, Petty France, 6 June 1854.

My Lord,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter, dated the 2d instant, enclosing a copy of a declaration made by a person named Harriett Gardiner, on the 29th of May last, before the mayor of Cork, relating to her removal from the parishes of St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster; and in reply thereto I beg to state, that Harriett Gardiner and three children first applied for a lodging at the workhouse on the night of the 3d of May last, and were, amongst others, admitted as lodgers, and on the 3d, 5th, 6th, and 10th of the same month, her application was repeated, and she was again admitted on each of those nights.

On Saturday, the 13th May, she was admitted into the workhouse, and remained until the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Poor, which took place on the Thursday following, when it appeared, upon her examination, that her husband had left her five months before, in Holborn; that she had never resided in the parish of St. Margaret; that she could not give any account of her mode of gaining a livelihood, or her place of residence; and it further appearing to the Board that she was unable to procure employment in the parish, where she was a stranger, the Board directed the necessary steps to be taken for her removal to Ireland, and she and her family were accordingly sent to Ireland, under an order of justices, on the 24th May last.

With respect to the other person, named Catherine Rogers, alluded to by Harriett Gardiner, in her declaration, as having accompanied her to Ireland, I find a person, named Catherine Rogers, and two children, were admitted into the workhouse on the night of the 21st April, and that they appeared before the Board on the 29th April, and again on the 11th May last, when it appeared to the Board, from her statement, that she was married at Newport, five years before; that her husband had left her and her family at Brighton two months previous; that she tramped from thence to London without any apparent object, and had never resided in this parish, and there being no probability of her procuring employment in England, the Board ordered, that if she continued an inmate of the workhouse at the end of a fortnight, the necessary steps would be taken for their removal to Ireland; that as she remained in the workhouse after the time mentioned, she was removed by order of the justices to Ireland.

In conclusion, I beg to say, that it is a matter of very frequent occurrence for Irish women, with large families, to apply at the workhouse at night, stating, that they are deserted by their husbands, and it is found quite impossible to ascertain the truth, on account of their being strangers to the parish and its officers.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Edward Spooner*, Clerk.

Appendix, No. 7.

St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster,
My Lord, Workhouse, Petty France, Clerk's Office, 16 June 1854.

Having received a copy of the declaration of Catherine Rogers (the enclosure of which was omitted in your Lordship's communication of the 2d instant) relative to her removal in May last from these parishes to Ireland.

I find that I have very little to add to my letter of the 6th instant upon the case, except that it appears, after Catherine Rogers had been deserted by her husband at Brighton, she was admitted into the workhouse there; that when she came to London she stated that she did not know where he was. If he was in London, and she knew it, she certainly might have gone to him, or in search of him, during the 14 days' grace allowed her by the Board of Governors to leave the workhouse. As to her being forcibly taken before the magistrates, that statement is totally untrue; she walked to the Sessions House with Harriett Gardiner, and back again to the workhouse, after the order for her removal was made.

I have, &c.
To Lord Courtenay, (signed) *Edward Spooner*, Clerk.
Secretary, Poor Law Board.

2.—From the Directors of the Poor of *St. Giles* and *St. George, Bloomsbury.*

[See the Case of *Margaret Smith*, Questions 1833, 1864.]

St. Giles and Bloomsbury,
Sir, Vestry Clerk's Office, 1 June 1854.

I beg to acknowledge your letter of 31st ultimo, together with the extract from the evidence of Mr. Cusack, given before the Committee of the House of Commons on the subject of the removals of Irish and Scotch paupers, relative to the case of Margaret Smith.

This case is the one referred to in your letter to me of the 28th April last (13,484), and in my reply of the 3d May. I beg to send you another copy of the report of the relieving officer, which accompanied my reply, and shall be obliged (if you think it desirable) by your submitting it to Mr. Baines. The statements in the relieving officer's letter can, I understand, if necessary, be confirmed by the man Smyth.

I have, &c.
W. G. Lumley, Esq. (signed) *T. D. Robinson*, Vestry Clerk.

To the Directors of the Poor of *St. Giles* and *St. George, Bloomsbury.*

Gentlemen,

Margaret Lamb alias Smyth, aged 41, a native of Sligo, was admitted into the workhouse on the 6th September 1853, with three children.

Margaret, aged 19 years, born in Cork; Edward, aged four, born at Birchington, near Margate; Ann, aged two, born in St. Giles; George was born in the workhouse of St. Giles, 6th October 1853. Margaret is the child of her husband, who has been dead 12 or 13 years; the others are children of a man named Smyth, with whom Margaret Lamb has cohabited for several years past. Smyth is a person who goes about the country collecting and selling chickweed. The woman herself, a person not accustomed at any time to get her own livelihood by any useful calling; formerly she rented a room, letting it out to tramps, and other nightly lodgers; latterly street begging is said to have been her principal vocation.

As to the lawfulness of her removal, it appears that she had a child born out of St. Giles about four years ago, and also that in 1853 she was dwelling in Peckham. There is no foundation for the suggestion that the woman was prevented, after her confinement, from joining her husband, or from getting her own livelihood in England, if able or willing to do so.

After her confinement, on the 21st day of October, she left the workhouse, and it was not until she again became chargeable that an application was made for her removal.

I remain, &c.
1 May 1854. (signed) *William Waklin.*

3.—From the Guardians of the *West London* Union.

[See the Case of *Elizabeth Keefe*, Questions 1045, 1048.]

West London Union, 5, St. Andrew's Court, Holborn,
My Lords and Gentlemen, 7 June 1854.

I am desired by the Board of Guardians to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th May, forwarding a copy of an extract from evidence given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, on the subject of the removal of Irish and Scotch paupers. The Guardians

Guardians called upon the relieving officer for an explanatory statement regarding the case referred to in the evidence, and I now forward you a copy of that officer's communication on the subject.

I have, &c.

The Poor Law Board. (signed) *Jno. Pontifex*, Clerk to the Guardians.

Sir, West London Union, 3 June 1854.

In reply to your letter of the 31st ultimo, respecting the removal of Timothy Keife, his wife, and six children, from the parish of St. Sepulchre, in the city of London, to Ireland, that being his legal place of settlement by birth and apprenticeship;

I beg to inform you, that on the 9th of January last my attention was called to the distressed state of Timothy Keife, his wife, and six children, a tailor, living at No. 21, Union-court, in the parish of St. Andrew, City. I visited the case, and, upon inquiry, I found they had removed from St. Luke's, Middlesex, the day previous, to No. 21, Union-court; they were in a very dirty, destitute condition, and I recommended them to come into the workhouse that evening, which they declined to do. I then gave an order, the same evening, upon Mr. Phillips, the assistant relieving-officer, who keeps the books and pays the poor, for 1*s.* 6*d.* in necessaries and three loaves of bread; on the 11th January, an order for 1*s.* 6*d.* in necessaries and three loaves of bread more, and on the 14th of January, an order for 6*d.* in necessaries and three loaves of bread; total, in bread and necessaries, 8*s.* 9*d.* for the week; the family then removed from this place of residence, and I could not ascertain where they were gone to, until Friday, the 20th January. The Rev. James Jackson, rector of St. Sepulchre's Church, city of London, called my attention to a distressed family of the name of Timothy Keife, his wife and six children, living at No. 8, Brazier's-buildings, in the parish of St. Sepulchre, in the city, which I found to be the same family that removed from No. 21, Union-court. I gave them an order for relief, 2*s.* 6*d.* in necessaries, six loaves of bread, and 1*s.* 2*d.* in meat, total 7*s.* 2*d.*; and an order for the applicant, Timothy Keife, to attend our Board on Tuesday, the 24th January, which he did, and the guardians ordered him relief to the amount of 20*s.*

On Monday evening, the 27th of March, an application was again made by Timothy Keife, living at No. 8, Brazier's-buildings, for assistance. I gave him an order for two loaves of bread, and an order to appear before our Board the next morning; Keife and his wife both came to the Board, stating it was impossible for them to maintain their family, and asked to come into the workhouse, to be passed to Ireland; the Guardians granted their application, and the family was admitted the same day.

Mr. Wright, the messenger of the union, conveyed Timothy Keife in a cab to Guildhall, to be sworn to his parish in Ireland, on Saturday, the 1st of April; he was sworn, and Sir George Carrol signed the order for their removal to Ireland on the following Thursday, the 6th April.

Tuesday, the 4th April, being our Board-day, Timothy Keife and his wife applied to the Guardians as inmates of the workhouse, through Mr. Rentell, the master, for assistance, they having a long distance to travel when landed at Cork; they were allowed 25*s.* 6*d.*, and they were conveyed in a cab, by Mr. Wright, the messenger, from the workhouse to the vessel, on Thursday morning, the 6th of April, at half-past six o'clock in the morning.

Keife has one daughter married, named Walker, who frequently applies for relief, in consequence of her husband having no employment, also in cases of temporary sickness; she is, in my opinion, quite unable to assist her parents; they have another daughter in place of service, earning 2*s.* per week and her maintenance. The above is a true statement of the case, to the best of my recollection.

I am, &c.

J. Pontifex, Esq. (signed) *Wm. Chamberlain*,
Clerk to the Guardians, West London Union. Relieving Officer.

4.—From the Guardians of the *Whitechapel* Union.

[See the Cases of *Margaret Hagerty*, Questions 942. 2147; *Catharine Horgan*, Questions 969, 970; *Catharine Swiney*, Question 1020; *Ann Holland*, Questions 1049, 2160.]

Sir, 40, Leman-street, 7 June 1854.

The Guardians of this Union have received from the Poor Law Board certain extracts from evidence given by Mr. Shaughnessey, on the 18th and 25th May 1854, before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, on the subject of the removal, or alleged removal, to Cork, from the parish of Whitechapel, of four Irish paupers; viz. Margaret Hagerty, Catharine Horgan, Catharine Swiney, Ann Holland; and the Poor Law Board having stated that you would lay before the Committee any remarks that the Guardians might be desirous of making on the subject, I am directed to report to you the following particulars:

With respect to the case of Margaret Hagerty: It is not true that this pauper was removed to Ireland by or at the instance of the parish authorities of Whitechapel, as alleged, or by any parish in the Whitechapel Union; nor is the stated residence of the father in that parish.

Appendix, No. 7.

The next case, of Catharine Horgan, has been the subject of correspondence and explanation between the Poor Law Board, Mr. M'Guire, and myself, in the early part of March last; and it may be here sufficient to observe, that this pauper was not chargeable (as alleged) to the parish of Whitechapel, or any other parish in the Union, nor was she sent to Ireland by the Guardians, or at their instance.

Catharine Swiney's case.—This pauper was not admitted into the Whitechapel workhouse, nor was she relieved. as stated, nor was she sent to Ireland by the Guardians or officers of either the parish or Union.

Ann Holland's case.—This has also been the subject of inquiry, and I beg to enclose a copy of an explanatory letter which was forwarded by the Guardians of this Union to the Poor Law Board, on the 1st March last.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Smith*,
Clerk to the Guardians.

The Right Hon. M. T. Baines,
President of the Poor Law Board.

My Lords and Gentlemen, 40, Leman-street, 1 March 1854.

I AM directed by the Guardians to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo, and the copy declaration of Ann Holland, in which she states that she was married to Thomas Holland, a native of England, who died on the 17th August 1849, in the parish of Whitechapel, in which parish she resided 16 years without interruption, and that she was admitted into the workhouse on Tuesday, the 24th January last, detained one night, and put on board the steamer the following morning for Cork. The Guardians, in accordance with your request, make the following observations upon the woman's statement.

The husband, in his lifetime, was believed by the relieving officer to be an Irishman, and died in or about the month of August 1849, in the parish of Whitechapel, in this Union, since which period the widow has been frequently relieved, as well at the expense of the parish of Whitechapel as of the parish of Aldgate, in which latter parish she has resided for some long period since her husband's death, as will be perceived by the extract from the relieving officer's book sent herewith.

On Monday, the 16th January, the woman was taken to the Police Court, at Worship-street, for the purpose of obtaining the magistrate's order for removal; but, on her stating that her husband was born in England, the magistrate postponed the case for further inquiry. On the following day the woman was again taken before the same magistrate, and sufficient information was produced to satisfy him that she was legally removable to Ireland, and he accordingly signed the order, under the provisions of the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117.

The woman and her family were then admitted into the workhouse, and next day were removed to Ireland.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Smith*,
Clerk to the Guardians.

To the Poor Law Board.

5.—From the GUARDIANS of the Parish of *Lambeth*.

[See the Case of *Belinda Prosser*, Questions 1802, 1848.]

My Lords and Gentlemen, Lambeth Workhouse, 31 May 1854.

I AM directed by the Board of Guardians for the parish of Lambeth to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th instant, transmitting for the observations of the Board copy of an extract from evidence given by Ralph Cusack, Esq., Chairman of the North Dublin Union, before the Select Committee of the House of Commons upon the case of Belinda Prosser, and with reference thereto I am to transmit for your information copy of the voluntary statement of Belinda Prosser, and also copy of her examination upon oath taken by the justices who made the order for her removal to Ireland.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. T. Logan*, Clerk.

To the Poor Law Board, Whitehall, London.

STATEMENT made by *Belinda Prosser*, of 4, Pleasant-place, William-street, Lambeth, on 16 March 1853.

I AM the widow of Richard Prosser, a policeman, who died 7th October last, at St. Thomas's Hospital, Southwark, I then lived in Joiner-street, in the parish of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark; I came back to Lambeth six or seven weeks ago; I have never paid more than 4*s*. 6*d*. weekly rent; I was married to my husband in Ireland about 21 years ago; I have three children; my husband was an Irishman; I am a native of Wicklow, and left there about 13 years ago.

Surrey,

Surrey, to wit. } THE examination of Belinda Prosser taken on oath before us, two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the county of Surrey, this 22d day of April in the year of Our Lord 1853, who on oath saith that, according to the best of her knowledge and belief, she was born in Wicklow, in that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland, which she left about 13 years ago, and hath no settlement in that part of the United Kingdom called England, and hath actually become and is now chargeable to the parish of Lambeth, in the county of Surrey (and that she hath three children, neither of which children hath gained a settlement in England).

The Mark of × *Belinda Prosser.*

Sworn the day and year first above written, before us,

John Humphery,
James M. Rosseter.

6.—From the GUARDIANS of the Parish of *Liverpool.*

[See the Case of *Bridget Farrell*, Questions 1835, 1881.]

My Lords and Gentlemen, Liverpool, 2 June 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and by direction of the Finance Committee, the Select Vestry not holding their general meeting until Tuesday next, to reply to the evidence which you forward as having just been given by Mr. Cusack, the Chairman of the North Dublin Union, before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, on the subject of the removal of Irish and Scotch paupers.

It is alleged on the statement of Bridget Farrell, in the evidence referred to, "that she had lived in Liverpool for 12 years; that one of her children took sick; that she made application for medical relief; that herself and two children were taken into the workhouse; and that on the following morning they were sent to Dublin against her will, and admitted into the workhouse of that Union, leaving her husband and two more children at their residence in Liverpool."

I beg to inform you that no person named "Bridget Farrell," with or without children, has been at any time during the past two years sent to Ireland by the parochial authorities of Liverpool; nor was she or any one to whom the particulars stated could in the remotest degree be made to apply, an inmate of the Liverpool workhouse during the same period.

Lest it should be said that this woman, Farrell, may have given her maiden name in Dublin, I may add that my observations apply to the name "Bridget," as well as to the name "Farrell." No case indeed of the kind alleged, so far as I can discover, has occurred under any name in connexion with Liverpool.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Charles Hart.*

To the Poor Law Board, Whitehall, London.

7.—From the GUARDIANS to the *West Derby* Union.

[See the Cases of *John Cotter*, Question 958; *Michael Flinn*, Question 1822.]

Sir, Liverpool, 16 June 1854.

I AM directed by the Guardians of the above Union to acknowledge the receipt of the Poor Law Board's letter of the 1st instant, with its accompanying extracts from evidence just given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the subject of the removal of Irish and Scotch paupers; and in accordance with the intimation contained in such letter, to forward to you herewith copy report, &c., of the Committee of the Guardians to whom such evidence was referred for investigation. The Report of the Committee was unanimously adopted by the Guardians at their meeting on the 14th instant.

I have, &c.
(signed) *William Cleaver,*
Union Clerk.

The Right Hon. M. T. Baines, M. P., President of the Poor Law Board, &c. &c.

Appendix, No. 7.

WEST DERBY UNION.—REPORT of the VISITING COMMITTEE upon the Communication of the Poor Law Board, forwarding Extracts from the Evidence given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, on the subject of the Removal of Irish and Scotch Poor.

To the GUARDIANS of the *West Derby* Union.

YOUR Committee, having considered the evidence of Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Clerk of the Cork Union, relative to the statements of John Cotter, and having before them Mr. Bramham, the removing officer for Irish poor, Mr. Gough, the master of the workhouse, Mr. Barnett, the relieving officer, and likewise John Cotter (who has returned from Ireland), beg to report that the removal of Cotter to Ireland was conducted in conformity with law; that Mr. Bramham furnished Cotter and his family with food and clothing of the value of 15 *s.* previous to their embarkation; that the alleged persuasion of Cotter to sign his deposition by Mr. Gough, the master, has been denied by him, but that the conversation between them at the magistrate's office was probably misunderstood by Cotter; that the expense of Cotter's return to this Union has been defrayed by the Guardians and officers of the Cork Union; and that he has again applied for, and this day been ordered relief at 4 *s.* per week for one month, at the charge of the township from which he was removed. Your Committee annex hereto a letter received from Mr. Barnett, relieving officer, setting forth the dates of Cotter's application to him, and likewise Cotter's apparent circumstances and character generally, from which it will be seen that the assertions contained in Cotter's letter and in the evidence before the Select Committee of the House of Commons are not borne out by the facts.

Dated this 14 June 1854. (signed) *H. S. Alpass*, Chairman.

Public Office, Toxteth Park, Liverpool,
Sir, 9 June 1854.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter enclosing an extract from evidence given before a Select Committee of the House of Commons by Mr. O'Shaughnessy, clerk of the Cork Union, on the 18th May last, relative to the case of John Cotter and family, who became chargeable to this township, and were removed to Ireland in January last, and in reply to observe, that from Cotter's own information, given to me on the occasion of his first application for relief, viz., on the 8th November 1853, it appears he was then 58 years old, and on another application being made by the wife on the 15th December 1853, she informed me that her husband was then only 56 years of age.

When Cotter first applied to me as above, he stated that he had resided only one year continuously in the township of Toxteth Park, having previous to that time resided for three months in Hornby-street in the parish of Liverpool. Prior to his coming to inhabit in this neighbourhood, probably 17 years ago, he was for some years roaming about the country, engaged as an itinerant auctioneer, staying a few weeks or months only in each place, visiting almost every town in which his licence allowed him to sell. In London (not being permitted to sell there), he did not reside during the time he was so occupied.

It does not appear that the cause of his first seeking relief was "sickness and fever," as he first applied to me, as before mentioned, on the 8th November 1853, in a state of destitution, and it was not until the 15th December 1853 that he and his family were removed to the hospital with fever.

They remained in the hospital until restored to their usual health, and then left; after which (viz., on the 18th January 1854) Cotter again applied for relief, and was furnished with an order of admission to the workhouse.

The real cause of his destitution was long-continued intemperance, producing inability to follow his occupation of a shoemaker. In consequence of this and embezzlement, he was discharged about two years ago from a situation he held connected with a Burial Society.

I am, &c.
W. Cleaver, Esq., (signed) *A. B. Barnett*,
Clerk of West Derby Union. Relieving Officer.

"Re *John Cotter*."

Gentlemen, West Derby Union Workhouse, 9 June 1854.

IN reply to the communication of the Poor Law Board, of 1st June, I beg to say that the man's statement is partly correct, but not where he says, "I pledged him my word and honour that he would not be sent to Ireland." You will be aware from the evidence, that he was an inmate of this house only three days; therefore I cannot say more than my impression of the man's character was very favourable. He said he had been employed profitably, and could be again, and did not wish to go to Ireland, to which he was a comparative stranger. I told him that if he satisfied the magistrates on that point, I thought they would not send him. I took him to the magistrate's office, and what his statement there was I know not; however, a warrant of removal was issued, and acted upon the same day. I believe the statement about the handcuffs is incorrect.

I am, &c.
To the Visiting Committee. (signed) *Ed. Gough*, Master.

Michael Flinn, stated to have in his possession a bill for 14 *l.* 10 *s.*, on his admission to the North Dublin Union.

Your Committee having carefully investigated the circumstances of this case, beg to report, that it does not appear to them that the pauper could have had such bill in his possession whilst in the workhouse of this Union, or under the charge of the removing officer, as no bill or any valuable whatever was found upon the pauper's person, although he was most rigidly searched.

(signed) *H. S. Alpass*, Chairman.

8.—From the Guardians of the *Preston* Union.

[See the Cases of three Boys, Question 1902.]

My Lords and Gentlemen, Preston, 9 June 1854.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st of June instant, in reference to certain removals alleged to have been made from this Union to Dublin during the month of May last; also extract from evidence given by Mr. Cusack, the Chairman of North Dublin Union, respecting the same, on the 25th of May last, more particularly to the cases of three boys from the north of Ireland (Belfast), admitted into the North Dublin Union workhouse; which letter, with the evidence adverted to, were duly laid before the Board of Guardians of this Union, at their meeting held on Tuesday last, June 6th; and I am instructed to state to you, that due inquiry has been made into the removals which have taken place from Preston to Dublin during the month of May last, and that the following is a list of the persons removed; viz. Mary Ann Quinn, Bridget Donoheugh and child, Catherine M'Cormick, and Mary Willian, from Preston to Dublin.

I am, however, to observe to you, that it is very probable the persons referred to by Mr. Cusack may have been sent to Dublin by the cotton-masters of Preston, who probably engaged them at their own expense, and not that of the parish, or at the instance of the Board of Guardians; but it is not denied that persons belonging to Belfast may be, and sometimes are, removed from Preston *viâ* Liverpool to Belfast, as a matter of convenience, when there are several removals to Ireland taking place at the same time, although perhaps they might be sent more direct to Belfast *viâ* Fleetwood, if the persons to be removed particularly wished it.

I have, &c.

To the Poor Law Board, Whitehall, London. (signed) *Jos. Thurkeray*, Clerk.

9.—From the Guardians of the Parish of *Birmingham*.

[See Case of *Michael Benson*, Questions 1892, 1895.]

Sir, Birmingham, 8 June 1854.

I submitted to the Guardians of the poor of Birmingham, at their meeting held yesterday, the letter of the Poor Law Board, dated the 1st instant, transmitting, for the information of the Guardians, an extract from evidence given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, on the subject of the removal of Irish and Scotch paupers, and stating that if the Guardians or their officers were desirous of making any statement or observations thereon, and would forward them to you as Chairman of the Select Committee, you would readily undertake to lay the same before the Committee without delay. The Guardians thereupon unanimously adopted a resolution (a copy of which I have the honour to enclose), to the effect that you, as President of the Poor Law Board, be informed, that no Irish poor have been removed from Birmingham to Ireland except under and by virtue of orders of justices, which the clerk to the Guardians is quite prepared to show by his own evidence and otherwise, and directing and authorising the clerk to take all such steps as may appear to be requisite for that purpose.

In accordance with such resolution, I beg to tender my evidence, in reference to the evidence given by the Chairman of the North Dublin Union.

I have, &c.

(signed) *James Corder*, Clerk to the Guardians.

The Right Hon. M. T. Baines, M.P., &c.

Parish of *Birmingham*.

At the weekly meeting of the Board of Guardians, held on Wednesday, the 7th day of June 1854, *Frederick Dee*, Esq., in the Chair, It was Resolved, that the President of the Poor Law Board be informed, that no Irish poor have been removed from Birmingham to Ireland, except under and by virtue of orders of justices, which the clerk to this Board is quite prepared to show by his own evidence and otherwise, and that the clerk be and he is hereby directed and authorised, to take all such steps as may appear to be requisite for that purpose.

Appendix, No 7.

10.—From the GUARDIANS of *Kingston-upon-Hull.*

[See the Case of *Catherine Rutherford,* Question 1812.]

My Lords and Gentlemen, Hull Workhouse, 6 June 1854.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, accompanied by an extract from the evidence given by Mr. Cusack, Chairman of the North Dublin Union, in reference to the case of Catherine Rutherford; and to inform you that no Irish pauper was ever attempted to be removed from this house to Ireland, who had any fair claim to a five years' residence, and that every pauper so removed is taken before a magistrate in the usual way. The relieving officer who attended to the case is not now attached to this incorporation, but the Board is of opinion that, had the pauper stated at the time she had resided 33 years in our parish in Hull (if that were so), even had such residence been, in strictness, broken, she would not have been sent out of England against her will.

I am also directed to add, that there are several both Irish and Scotch paupers at present in the house, and who are not removed on account of having resided in Hull for five years and upwards, when a strict examination of the facts would, no doubt, show that their residences have been broken.

I am, &c.

(signed) *Walter J. Reed,*

To the Poor Law Board, London. Clerk.

11.—From the GUARDIANS of the *Cardiff* Union.

[See the Case of *Honora Swiney,* Questions 1088, 1093.]

My Lords and Gentlemen, Cardiff Union, 2 June 1854.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday accompanying extract from evidence just given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the subject of the removal of Irish and Scotch paupers; and beg to submit the following particulars relative to the removal to Ireland of Honora Sweeny, from which you will perceive that the statement of the girl referred to is incorrect in all material points. The name of Honora Sweeny appears in the workhouse admission book as admitted into the Refuge (or branch workhouse at Cardiff, not a hospital) on the 21st day of October 1853, on account of destitution. The medical officer states, on reference to his medical relief book, that he visited the refuge on the 21st, 22d, 25th, and 29th days of October, when Sweeny was an inmate, and that her name does not appear on his book as a patient, which would have been the case had she represented herself as sick. Mrs. Donett, the matron of the Refuge, recollects Honora Sweeny, who was quite well whilst in that establishment.

We were about removing several other Irish, and Honora Sweeny was included in the list, because it was thought by the officers of the Union that she would remain chargeable to the Union, and would not be able to get her own living. She never stated to any officer of the Union that she had relatives here who would support her, nor if this were true, would there appear to be any reason why she should have applied for relief on the ground of destitution, and had she had such relatives in Cardiff, it was competent to her at any time, by giving three hours' notice, to leave the Refuge and go to those friends, and had she expressed such a wish or desire she would most assuredly have been permitted to leave, as very many are, under similar circumstances.

But the most important allegation made by Sweeny is, "that without any previous intimation she was put on board a steamer for Bristol, and thence removed to Cork." Now, it fortunately happens that I am able to send you in this case Sweeny's examination before the magistrates and their order for her removal, dated 24th October; whereas she was not sent from Cardiff to Bristol until the 29th of that month; an interval of five days elapsing between the date of the order and its execution; so that her statement of being put on board the steamer without previous intimation is evidently wilfully untrue.

Sweeny also alleges in her statement as put in evidence before the Committee, "that she resided in Cardiff from infancy," and is ignorant of the place of her birth.

In her deposition on oath before the magistrates, she states that "she was born in the county of Cork, which she left about one year ago."

The Board of Guardians will be glad to avail themselves of the offer of the Right honourable President of the Poor Law Board to bring these observations in the case of Honora Sweeny before the Select Committee, in order that the evidence of that pauper, impugning the conduct of the Guardians of the Cardiff Union, may be proved to the Committee to be untrue.

I have, &c.

The Poor Law Board, London. (signed) *T. Watkins,* Clerk.

County of Glamorgan.

1. All poor persons born in Scotland, Ireland, the Islands of Man, Scilly, Jersey, or Guernsey, and removed by warrant of two justices of this county, in pursuance of the Statute 9 Vict. c. 117, shall be conveyed by the constable of the complaining parish, or by such other person as the said justices on the nomination of the guardians or overseers who make the complaint shall appoint, to the port ordered by such justices.

County of Glamorgan.—Rules for Removal of Poor Persons born in Ireland, &c.

Glamorgan, to wit. } Whereas complaint hath been made by the Board of Guardians of the Cardiff Union, in the said county of Glamorgan, unto us whose names are hereunto set and seals affixed, two of Her Majesty's justices of the peace acting in and for the said county, that Honora Sweeny, a person born in the county of Cork, hath become and is now chargeable to the parish of St. Mary, in the town of Cardiff, in the said Union: And whereas, upon examination of the said Honora Sweeny taken upon oath before us, "which examination is hereto annexed," it doth appear to our satisfaction that she was born in the county of Cork, and hath not a settlement in England.

These are therefore to require you, the said Board of Guardians, to convey the said Honora Sweeny to the port of Cork, in the manner directed by the justices of the said county, in pursuance of the provisions of a certain Act made and passed in the 8th and 9th year of the reign of Queen Victoria, intituled "An Act to amend the Laws relating to the Removal of Poor Persons born in Scotland, Ireland, the Islands of Man, Scilly, Jersey, or Guernsey, and chargeable in England."

Given under our hands and seals this 24th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1853.

Wm. Williams, Mayor. (L. S.)
Griffith Phillips. (L. S.)

2. Previous to granting such warrant, the justices before whom a poor person alleged to be a native of Scotland, Ireland, the Islands of Man, Scilly, Jersey, or Guernsey, shall be brought, shall satisfy himself that such poor person and his family (if any) is or are in such a state of health as to be fit to be removed, examine such poor person upon oath, in order to ascertain whether any settlement has been gained in England and Wales; and shall also examine upon oath the parish officer who may bring him or her, in order to satisfy themselves whether due inquiry has been made to ascertain whether such settlement has been acquired before application for the warrant, and if any reasonable doubt shall arise from such examination, the justice shall adjourn the hearing, and direct the parish officer to make due inquiry.

3. Previous to signing any warrant of removal, the justices shall direct their clerk to write to the keepers of the gaol at Cardiff, and House of Correction at Swansea, to inquire, or shall otherwise inform themselves of the earliest time at which a vessel is expected to sail from such port to such one of the ports specified in Schedules (A.) and (B.) to stat. 8 & 9 Vict., c. 117, and at the foot of these rules, as is nearest to the place of birth or residence of the poor Irish or Scotch person so to be removed, or for the birth country of any other poor person so to be removed, and the justices shall direct such poor person to be conveyed to such of the said first-mentioned ports as under all the circumstances of the case they may deem most expedient; provided that any such poor person born in Ireland, may, with his consent, be removed to any port or place in Ireland, not specified in Schedule (A.); and that any such poor person born in Scotland, may be removed to any place not being a port, but being as near as the nearest of the ports to the places specified in the said Schedule (B.), where such person was born or has resided, or to any port or place in Scotland to which such person may consent to be removed.

4. The justices shall make and sign in duplicate the warrant of removal, shall in the margin thereof set down the name of the port from which, and the route and conveyance by which, and the name of the port, place, or country (as the case may be) to which, and of the vessel in which such poor person is to be removed, and shall deliver such warrants to the conductor appointed as hereinbefore mentioned.

5. The conductor, on arriving at the place of embarkation, shall place such poor person on board the vessel named in the margin of warrant, and shall deliver him, together with one of the duplicate warrants of removal, to the master of such vessel.

6. The master of the vessel shall be paid any sum not exceeding 1 *l.* for the conveyance and maintenance of each such poor person; and shall, after the same has been filled up, sign on the duplicate warrant of removal, to be kept by the conductor, the subjoining receipt for the money so paid, and for the poor received on board.

Appendix, No. 7.

I acknowledge to have received from of the Parish of county of Glamorgan, poor persons on board the vessel of which I am master, and one duplicate of the warrant for their removal; and I hereby undertake to land such poor persons at the port of in I also acknowledge to have received from the said pounds, being for the conveyance and maintenance during the passage of each of such poor persons.

Dated at this day of 185

Master of the of now bound to

Witness,

7. The conductor, on his return, shall deliver to the Guardians of the Union from which they have been removed, the last-mentioned duplicate warrant of removal, together with the subjoining Affidavit, No. 1, duly filled up, and sworn.

	£.	s.	d.
Warrant of removal as per table of fees, each copy - - - - -			
Each copy of such examination - - - - - - - - - -			
Travelling expenses, including trouble and subsistence while travelling miles, at 4 *d.* per mile - - - - - - - - - -			
Subsistence and loss of time at port of emarkation - { Days, at 1 *s.* 6 *d.* / Nights, at - 9 *d.*			
Poor persons miles, at 3 *d.* each per mile - - - - - - -			
Subsistence at port of embarkation of poor persons, at 1 *s.* per day and 9 *d.* per night each - - - { Days, / Nights,			
The actual amount of passage money paid for the conveyance of the several parties to and the passage money to for poor persons, at *l.* - - - -			

No. 1.—I, the person entrusted with the custody of the poor persons named in the annexed warrant of removal, do make oath and say, that the above is a true and faithful account of the amount of the expenses incurred and paid by me on account of the removal of the poor persons referred to in the said warrant.

Sworn before me one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace for the said county, this day of 18

As witness my hand

A copy of the foregoing orders, rules, regulations, directions, and forms, shall be printed at the foot of every warrant of removal, made in pursuance of the aforesaid statute, and a copy thereof shall be delivered by the justice's clerk to the parish officer who shall apply for the warrant of removal.

Examination of Poor Persons.

Glamorganshire, Borough of Cardiff, (to wit.) The examination of Honora Sweeny, taken on oath before us, William Williams, and Griffith Phillips, Esquires, two of Her Majesty's justices of the peace acting in and for the said borough of Cardiff, in the said county of Glamorgan, this 24th day of October in the year of our Lord 1853, who saith on oath, that, according to the best of her knowlege and belief, she was born in the county of Cork, in that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland, which she left about one year ago, and hath no settlement in that part of the United Kingdom called England, and hath actually become and is now chargeable to the parish of St. Mary, in the town of Cardiff, in the said county of Glamorgan.

William Williams. (L.S.)

Sworn the day and year first above written. *Griffith Phillips.* (L.S.)

The following are the ports to which such poor persons can be sent—

(A.)

In Ireland.

Belfast,	Dublin,	Waterford,
Cork,	Dundalk,	Wexford,
Derry,	Limerick,	

Or to any other port or place in Ireland to which the poor person to be removed may consent to be removed.

(B.)

In Scotland.

Aberdeen,	Dundee,	Greenock,
Ayr,	Edinburgh,	Inverness,
Dumfries,	Glasgow,	Oban,

Or any other place in Scotland not being a port as near to the place as the nearest of the above-mentioned ports where any such poor Scotch person was born or has resided, or any port or place in Scotland to which any such poor Scotch person may consent to be removed.

N.B.—The warrant of removal and the examination must, on all occasions, be made and signed on the foregoing printed forms, as must the appointments, receipts, and affidavit.

12.—From the Guardians of the Parish of *St. Martin-in-the-Fields.*

[See the Cases of *Michael O'Connor*, Question 1051; *Anna Mortimer*, Question 1835.]

My Lords and Gentlemen, 6 July 1854.

I am directed to enclose you copy report of the relieving officer of this parish in reference to the cases of Michael O'Connor and Anna Mortimer, mentioned in your letter of the 31st of May last.

I have, &c.

To the Poor Law Board, &c. &c. &c.

(signed) *C. Robertson Griffiths,* Clerk to the Board.

Sir,

In reply to a letter dated 31st May 1854, from the Poor Law Board, in reference to the removal of Michael O'Connor and Anna Mortimer to Ireland, I beg leave to hand you, for the information of the Guardians, the following particulars in reference thereto.

I have, &c.

C. R. Griffiths, Esq. Clerk to the Guardians.

(signed) *H. Kingston.*

Michael O'Connor, aged 40 years, was admitted into the workhouse on the 30th of August last, and removed to Ireland on the 6th of September following, at his own request. His examination, taken on the day of his admission into the workhouse, states he has resided in the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields only two months; that he never gained any settlement in England, and left Ireland two years and a half ago.

Anna Mortimer, aged 57, was admitted casually from a coffeehouse in Castle-street, for ten days previously to 28th March last, when the Board ordered her admission for the purpose of removal to Ireland, and she was removed on the 29th accordingly. The complainant never made any statement respecting her husband, and was considered, upon her own representation, to be a single woman.

Appendix, No. 8.

PAPERS delivered in by the Rev. *Augustus Campbell*, 29 *June* 1854.

RETURN of the Number of PAUPERS Relieved in the Parish of *Liverpool*.

YEAR.	OUT-DOOR.				WORKHOUSE.				INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.			
	TOTAL.		Of which were Irish.		TOTAL.		Of which were Irish.		TOTAL.		Of which were Irish.	
	Average Number of Paupers Weekly.	Relief during the Year.	Average Number of Paupers Weekly.	Relief during the Year.	Number of Paupers in the Year.	Relief in Food, Clothing, and Necessaries.	Number of Paupers in the Year.	Relief in Food, Clothing, and Necessaries.	Number of Paupers in the Year.	Relief in Food, Clothing, and Necessaries.	Number of Paupers in the Year.	Relief in Food, Clothing, and Necessaries.
		£. s. d.		£. s. d.		£. s. d.		£. s. d.		£. s. d.		£. s. d.
From March 1844 to March 1845	9,268	20,075 15 4	1,564	497 17 –	5,658	10,044 6 4	1,485	2,641 11 7	The Schools were not opened till 1st May this year.			
– March 1845 – March 1846	8,742	19,442 18 1	1,831	647 14 –	6,105	8,466 3 7	1,601	2,220 15 11	574	3,373 10 –	8	47 – –
– March 1846 – March 1847	24,117	29,224 5 9	3,207	9,647 16 –	7,078	9,408 1 10	1,859	2,486 10 5	832	6,232 16 1	64	479 9 4
– March 1847 – March 1848	61,242	42,089 18 1	26,413	20,750 6 –	13,230	14,480 8 –	3,858	4,223 9 –	1,125	8,721 5 1	123	953 5 –
– March 1848 – March 1849	12,679	32,788 3 7	3,480	8,337 6 9	8,883	12,779 15 8	2,591	3,727 8 9	1,124	7,445 12 1	92	609 10 –
– March 1849 – March 1850	12,348	34,674 16 8	3,378	8,066 8 9	7,928	11,473 9 10	3,760	5,449 18 2	1,126	6,969 9 11	97	532 13 10
– March 1850 – March 1851	11,518	32,488 – 11	3,037	6,835 2 11	7,908	10,740 8 3	3,754	5,101 14 –	1,113	6,572 17 2	112	590 16 –
– March 1851 – March 1852	10,951	32,851 16 2	2,901	6,731 4 9	8,516	12,960 18 11	4,058	6,171 17 7	1,071	6,365 3 2	98	575 15 –
– March 1852 – March 1853	10,701	27,443 17 2	2,903	5,969 13 6	9,886	11,747 14 –	4,743	5,638 17 11	1,030	6,414 9 5	104	642 8 4
– March 1853 – March 1854	10,436	28,811 11 3	2,760	6,594 10 10	10,494	14,245 6 7	5,047	6,843 10 4	1,098	7,578 7 11	144	993 12 –
			£.	74,078 – 6			£.	44,505 13 8			£.	5,424 9 6

TOTAL AMOUNT Expended as above in Relief to Irish Paupers only, not reckoning the Cost of Medicines, Medical Officers, Salaries, or other Establishment Charges; viz.:—

In the above Ten Years.	£. s. d.
Out-Door	74,078 – 6
Workhouse	44,505 13 8
Industrial Schools	5,424 9 6
£.	124,008 3 8

In the Last Year.	£. s. d.
Out-Door	6,594 10 10
Workhouse	6,843 10 4
Industrial Schools	993 12 –
£.	14,431 13 2

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT PROVIDENT SOCIETY.

Appendix, No. 8.

RETURNS of the MENDICITY DEPARTMENT from the commencement of the Society's Operations, distinguishing the Birthplaces of the Recipients for each Year.

YEAR.	ENGLISH.	IRISH.	SCOTCH.	WELSH.	UNKNOWN.	TOTAL.
1830 -	1,015	2,460	116	252	54	3,897
1831 -	1,925	8,069	325	881	103	11,303
1832 -	7,138	7,809	104	123	35	15,209
1833 -	1,395	1,498	61	22	2	2,978
1834 -	1,645	1,669	34	243	3	3,594
1835 -	1,193	1,125	10	11	1	2,340
1836 -	1,283	1,298	29	37	11	2,658
1837 -	3,986	5,824	26	57	9	9,902
1838 -	1,896	2,087	18	36	6	4,043
1839 -	3,149	3,146	48	119	23	6,485
1840 -	6,305	7,973	76	129	23	14,506
1841 -	7,958	16,036	403	1,342	138	25,877
1842 -	7,481	9,756	531	1,007	151	18,926
1843 -	6,720	9,346	340	921	150	17,477
1844 -	6,875	9,492	357	981	168	17,873
1845 -	3,488	4,446	52	112	4	8,102
1846 -	9,447	18,987	396	731	78	29,639
1847 -	3,633	5,465	248	293	24	9,663
1848 -	7,807	9,499	795	579	76	18,756
1849 -	4,470	3,824	472	321	40	9,127
1850 -	3,585	3,983	178	386	18	8,150
1851 -	2,638	1,956	108	235	25	4,962
1852 -	2,525	2,361	44	57	11	4,998
1853 -	1,612	1,169	29	76	13	2,899
	99,169	139,278	4,800	8,951	1,166	253,364

The above numbers relate to families, not individuals.

With regard to the corresponding statement of the depositors, it cannot be correctly ascertained, but may be calculated by the same average.

James Shaw, Agent.

RETURN of PASSENGERS (apparently Paupers), who have arrived in *Liverpool* from *Ireland*, from 1st January 1850 to 31st March 1854.

MONTH.	1850.	1851.	1852.	1853.	1854.	REMARKS.
January* -	1,291	4,439	1,892	1,908	868	* The returns were discontinued from 19 January to 22 March 1850.
February* -	- -	5,000	2,740	3,473	1,455	
March* -	920	4,617	4,035	3,480	2,198	
April - -	6,679	5,018	5,737	6,677	—	
May - -	10,802	7,194	11,944	9,229	—	
June - -	15,611	16,160	21,353	24,492	—	
July - -	8,550	6,598	12,372	9,228	—	
August -	10,671	7,940	9,081	7,117	—	
September -	5,137	2,015	2,603	2,407	—	
October -	7,373	3,294	3,154	1,451	—	
November -	6,213	3,671	2,083	1,029	—	
December -	4,518	2,188	1,428	862	—	
TOTAL -	77,765	68,134	78,422	71,353	†4,521	† For the last three months.

CENTRAL POLICE OFFICE, 1st April 1854.

Gross amount of Irish arrivals for 1850 - - - - - -	251,001
Ditto - - - ditto - - 1851 - - - - -	283,503
Ditto - - - ditto - - 1852 - - - - -	232,331
Ditto - - - ditto - - 1853 - - - - -	233,652
Ditto - - - ditto (three months 1854) - - - -	32,415
TOTAL - - -	1,032,902
Paupers - - - 295,674	

J. J. Greig, I. & C.

A TABLE showing the Number of IRISH who came to *Liverpool* as EMIGRANTS, the Number who Emigrated, and the Remainder who Located themselves in *England*, from January 1850 to March 1854.

	1850.			1851.			1852.			1853.			1854.			REMARKS.
	Number of Persons who came to Liverpool as Emigrants.	Number of Persons who Emigrated.	Remainder who Located themselves in England.	Number of Persons who came to Liverpool as Emigrants.	Number of Persons who Emigrated.	Remainder who Located themselves in England.	Number of Persons who came to Liverpool as Emigrants.	Number of Persons who Emigrated.	Remainder who Located themselves in England.	Number of Persons who came to Liverpool as Emigrants.	Number of Persons who Emigrated.	Remainder who Located themselves in England.	Number of Persons who came to Liverpool as Emigrants.	Number of Persons who Emigrated.	Remainder who Located themselves in England.	
January*	4,693	5,970	- -	12,525	9,831	- -	8,345	6,445	- -	5,804	4,153	- -	3,977	1,727	—	*The Returns were discontinued from 19th January to 22d March 1850.
February*	- -	6,155	- -	16,698	10,622	- -	12,486	10,226	- -	9,844	10,025	- -	8,757	7,363	—	
March*	6,335	13,458	- -	20,552	14,634	- -	19,090	16,240	- -	16,863	12,297	- -	15,160	11,632	—	
April	18,836	12,129	- -	24,659	21,022	- -	17,015	14,288	- -	19,523	20,003	—	—	—	—	
May	24,221	13,977	- -	25,374	17,003	- -	17,191	15,996	- -	21,691	16,649	—	—	—	—	
June	21,638	10,539	- -	19,849	10,499	- -	11,986	11,956	- -	17,814	13,906	—	—	—	—	
July	14,948	9,655	- -	18,384	10,218	- -	11,568	12,158	- -	13,357	12,396	—	—	—	—	
August	17,555	11,557	- -	21,858	10,670	- -	13,456	12,570	- -	17,805	14,122	—	—	—	—	
September	17,846	12,757	- -	16,442	19,664	- -	15,107	16,105	- -	14,353	17,227	—	—	—	—	
October	20,192	16,185	- -	18,192	17,084	- -	13,265	11,588	- -	13,079	12,413	—	—	—	—	
November	15,550	11,575	- -	12,898	8,707	- -	8,515	9,258	- -	8,165	9,313	—	—	—	—	
December	11,422	10,455	- -	7,938	9,034	- -	5,885	5,619	- -	4,001	1,606	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL	173,236	134,412	38,824	215,369	158,988	56,381	153,909	141,449	12,460	162,299	144,110	18,189	27,894	20,722	7,172	

Appendix, No.

NUMBER of PAUPERS passed to *Ireland, Scotland, Isle of Man, and Guernsey*, from 26th December 1845 to 25th December 1853, with the Expense.

	Total Passed.	Ireland.	Scotland.	Isle of Man	Guernsey.	Total Cost.		
						£.	*s.*	*d.*
26 Dec. 1845 to 25 Dec. 1846 -	5,649	5,313	330	6	- -	1,197	1	6
26 Dec. 1846 to 25 Dec. 1847 -	15,472	15,008	443	21	- -	4,175	11	3
26 Dec. 1847 to 25 Dec. 1848 -	8,239	7,607	612	20	- -	2,459	8	6
26 Dec. 1848 to 25 Dec. 1849 -	10,071	9,509	543	19	- -	2,568	3	10
26 Dec. 1849 to 25 Dec. 1850 -	8,102	7,627	463	12	- -	1,487	15	6
26 Dec. 1850 to 25 Dec. 1851 -	8,232	7,808	406	13	5	1,968	19	10
26 Dec. 1851 to 25 Dec. 1852 -	6,004	5,506	483	9	6	1,460	2	6
26 Dec. 1852 to 25 Dec. 1853 -	4,820	4,503	302	13	2	1,124	13	6

TABLE showing the Number of PRISONERS who slept in the *Liverpool* Borough Gaol on Wednesday Night, the 27th April 1854.

	MALES.		FEMALES.		TOTAL, both Sexes.		GRAND TOTAL.
	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.	Juveniles.	
Irish - - - - -	158	50	97	12	255	62	317
Other countries - - -	188	32	111	18	299	50	349
TOTAL - - -	346	82	208	30	554	112	666

Wm Jameson, Governor.

Appendix, No. 9.

Appendix, No. 8. LETTER from *W. S. Walker*, Esq., to the Right Honourable *M. T. Baines*, Chairman.

Board of Supervision, Edinburgh,
28 June 1854.

Sir,

I NOW have the honour to transmit the accompanying copy of Rules and Forms relating to books kept by Inspectors of Poor in Scotland, in compliance with the request expressed by the Select Committee on Poor Removal.

I also take the liberty of transmitting, for the information of the Committee, a complete set of the documents relating to the cases of Catherine M'Ewan and Mary M'Loughlin, mentioned in my evidence at Questions 4150 and 4174. The statements of Dr. M'Gee in regard to these cases were fuller, in some important particulars, than mine; and it may be satisfactory to the Committee to peruse the whole documents.

I have to request that you will have the kindness to direct that these latter documents may be returned to me.

In answer to Question 4221, I observe that I have made a slight error in the number of the cases of complaint, owing to my having inadvertently counted one case twice over. I stated that the number of complaints which had been brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision by the Irish authorities was 18. The true number is 17; and the total number of complaints so brought under the notice of the Board of Supervision, and adduced before the Select Committee, is 26. This correction, requiring an alteration in the substance of my evidence, and a corresponding alteration in subsequent Questions and Answers where the numbers are repeated, I did not deem myself entitled to make it upon the copy of my evidence sent to me for correction. But if you deem the error of sufficient importance, I should feel obliged by your authorising the correction to be made.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. S. Walker*, Secretary.

DOCUMENTS relating to the Case of *Catherine M'Ewan.*

COPY RULES and FORMS relating to Books to be kept by Inspectors of Poor.

I. EXTRACTS "Rules relating to the Duties of Inspectors of Poor" issued by the Board of Supervision, October 1845.

1. The Inspector of the Poor shall attend all meetings of the parochial Board, and make an accurate minute of the proceedings at every meeting, and enter it in a book, and submit the same so entered to the succeeding meeting, to be confirmed by the Board and authenticated by the signature of the chairman, as a true record of the proceedings of the Board.

2. The inspector shall attend, if required, meetings of committees of the parochial Board, and keep an accurate minute of the proceedings of such committees, in the same manner as is above directed in regard to meetings of the parochial Board.

4. The inspector shall keep all the accounts, and preserve and be responsible for all books, writings, letters, vouchers and other documents relating to the business of the parochial Board, and produce the same when required to the Board of Supervision, or to any person duly authorised by that Board to receive and inspect the same.

7. The inspector shall make such investigations, as to all questions or matters connected with, or relating to, the administration of the laws for the relief of the poor in the parish, as the Board of Supervision may require, and prepare and transmit all returns and answers relative thereto, in such manner and form as the said Board of Supervision may direct.

9. The inspector shall inquire into, and make himself acquainted with the circumstances of the case of each individual poor person receiving relief from the poor funds of the parish.

10. The inspector shall keep an accurate list or register of all persons receiving relief, and of the sums paid to each, and of the period during which such relief has been given; and he shall also keep a list of all those who have applied for, and been refused relief, and in such cases he shall state shortly the grounds of refusal.

13. It

13. It is the duty of the inspector, and of each assistant inspector, to insert in a book kept for that purpose, the date of his visits to the dwelling of each pauper, and any observations he may think it material to make on the conduct and condition of the pauper.

24. The inspector shall keep full and regular accounts of all monies received and disbursed by him, on account of the relief of the poor.

Approved by the Right Hon. Sir James Graham, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State. 20 October 1845.

II. COPY Circular Letter, requiring Inspectors of Poor to keep a Register of Poor.

"Board of Supervision, April 1846.

"The Board of Supervision has ordered that the inspectors of the poor of every parish should immediately procure a 'Register of Poor Persons admitted on the Roll,' according to the form printed and prepared by Messrs. Murray & Gibb, under the direction of the Board.

"You will receive a printed circular from Messrs. Murray & Gibb relative to the above-named register, and you will then, without delay, write to Messrs. Blackwood & Sons, Booksellers, 45, George-street, Edinburgh, stating the size which you will require for your parish, with instructions as to how you wish it forwarded.

"As soon as you receive it, you will pay particular attention to the specimen sheet at the commencement, and the printed directions, according to which all paupers are from that date to be entered.

"The Board does not require that paupers already on the roll should be entered in the Register; but wherever such entries can be made, without much inconvenience, the Board strongly recommends that this should be done; and you will understand that the order is imperative as to all paupers admitted hereafter.

"*W. Smythe*, Secretary."

Form of Register of Paupers.

No.	1. Name of Pauper.	2. Present Residence.	3. Married or single, widow or widower. If child, orphan deserted, or bastard.	4. Name of each dependent living with Pauper.	5. Age. Years.	6. Place of Birth.	7. Trade or Occupation.	8. If wholly or partially disabled.	9. Description of disablement.	10. Means and Resources of Pauper besides Parochial Relief.	11. Names and weekly earnings of Parents.	12. Names, ages, and earnings of children not living with Pauper, and whether married, and number of children.	13. Date when admitted on Roll.	14. Amount of relief in money.	15. Amount of relief in food, clothing, fuel, lodging, or of any other kind.	16. Date and cause of removal from Roll.

Explanations.

The numbers will refer to the names in the first column only.

No name of any poor person or dependent must be inserted, unless he or she is seen by the inspector or an assistant inspector.

A separate line shall be assigned to each pauper, and also to each dependent, in order that various columns may be filled up with reference to each individual pauper or dependent separately.

Column 1. In the first column will be inserted only the name of the head of the family or the actual recipient of the relief. If the relief is given for the sustentation of a dependent or dependents, and not for the sustentation of the head of the family or the actual recipient, this must be stated, as

Jane Orr,
for her child_____

Janet Wilson or Dick,
for her six children_____

Appendix, No. 9.

When a child, who is boarded or living with persons on whom it is not legally dependent, is receiving relief, the name of the child will be inserted in the first column.

Column 4. The name of each dependent living with the person whose name is in the first column, must be inserted on a separate line in the order of their respective ages.

Column 5. If the age of any pauper or dependent cannot be accurately ascertained, it must be stated as nearly as may be.

Column 8. In this column, state not only whether the pauper is wholly or partially disabled, but also the condition of each of the dependents, as the wife or children, and what they may be able to earn, and if any of them are disabled, so as thereby to become a greater burthen upon the parents, they should be stated as wholly, or partially disabled, and the description of disablement should be inserted in the next column.

Column 9. In cases arising from infirmity of body, specify thus: as "blind," "deaf and dumb," "lost use of one hand," or "of both hands," "of one leg," or "both legs," "feeble old age," "helpless old age," "helpless from palsy," &c. In cases arising from infirmity of mind, state the nature and extent of the infirmity, as, "lunatic, harmless," "lunatic, dangerous," "weak in mind," "absolute idiot," &c.

Column 12. It is desirable when the children are not residing in the parish, to obtain from the places of their residence the information required to fill up this column.

Column 17. In this column should be inserted, amongst other remarks, any property which, on the death of a pauper, may be recovered by the parish on assignment by the pauper; and when a pauper is admitted upon the roll by order of the sheriff, that fact must in all cases be noted.

III. COPY Circular Letter and Rules, requiring Inspectors of Poor to keep Books, and make Annual Returns to the Board of Supervision.

Sir, Board of Supervision, 7th December 1846.

I have to request your attention to the subjoined rules, which have been approved of by the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart., M.P.

I am, &c.

To the Inspector of Poor. (signed) *W. Smythe*, Sec.

Rules for Inspectors making Annual Returns to the Board of Supervision.

The Board of Supervision has ordered and directed:

I. That the parochial accounts of all sums received and expended for the relief and management of the poor shall be kept in such manner as to enable the inspector, when required, to make returns during the year, and to make an annual return to the Board of Supervision of the receipts and expenditure from the 15th of May in one year to the 14th May in the following year, the accounts being balanced at Whitsunday in each year.

II. That the annual returns be transmitted by inspectors to the Board of Supervision, on or before the 1st day of June in each year.

III. That the receipts be distinguished into:—

1. Money received from assessments, if the parish be assessed.
2. Money received from voluntary contributions and church collections, if the parish be unassessed.
3. From mortifications, and other sources.

IV. That the expenditure be divided under the following heads:

1. Sum expended on relief of poor on the whole roll, and of those whose names have since been entered on the register of paupers.

   Note.—The register of paupers must contain the names of all those persons to whom relief, whether permanent or temporary, has been granted by authority of the parochial Board, subsequent to the date at which the register was commenced.

2. Sum expended on the relief of casual or other poor, whose names are not entered on the register of paupers,

   Note.—Under this head will be placed, 1st, sums expended in relieving paupers belonging to other parishes, and which have not been recovered from those parishes; 2d, sums expended on applicants who may have been relieved by the inspector, before their cases are brought under the consideration of the parochial Board, and whose names are therefore not entered in the register.

3. Sum

3. Sum expended on the medical relief of the poor generally.

Note.—Medical relief includes salary of medical officer, medicines, cordials, special diet, clothing, trusses, bandages, &c., supplied to the sick poor.*

4. Sum expended on management.

Note.—Management includes the salaries of inspectors, collectors, clerks, expenses of poorhouse establishment, if any, stationery, postages, &c.

5. Sum expended on litigation.

N.B.—Sums expended on coals, rents, clothing, education, funerals, &c., should be entered separately, as expended on the registered or casual poor, according to the class to which the recipients belong.

The Board of Supervision has also ordered and directed, that the inspector of every parish or district shall, on or before the 1st June in each year, make a return, stating:

1. Number of poor on the old roll, or entered in the register of paupers, who have received relief in the course of the year preceding the 15th of May.
2. Number of registered poor who have died, or who have ceased to receive relief during the same period.
3. Number of casual or other poor relieved during the same period.
4. Number of poor resident within five miles of the parish, who have not been visited twice by the inspector during the same period; and the reasons why they have not been visited.
5. Number of applicants who have, during the said year, been refused relief by him or the parochial Board, and the number of those who, after such refusal, have been subsequently relieved by order of the sheriff.
6. Number of persons belonging to other parishes, or to England or Ireland, who have been removed voluntarily, and of those who have been removed by warrant of the sheriff or justices, in the course of the year ending 14th May.
7. Number of lunatics.
8. Number of orphans and deserted children.

Note.—The term "orphans" applies to those children only who have neither father nor mother; "deserted children" to foundlings and children deserted by both parents.

26 November 1846. (signed) *W. Smythe*, Sec.

Approved by the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart., one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, 1st December 1846.

I.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
11 December 1850.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Commissioners for administering the laws for relief of the poor in Ireland to forward to you, to be laid before the Board of Poor Law Supervision in Scotland, the accompanying copy of evidence of a woman, named Catherine M'Ewen, taken before Mr. Senior, poor-law inspector, relative to the removal of herself and two children from Haddington, in Scotland, to Belfast; and in reference thereto I am to request, that the Board of Supervision will be pleased to direct that the facts of the case be ascertained, and that they be communicated to the Commissioners, who will feel obliged by being informed of the legal grounds for the removal of this woman and her children to Ireland.

No. 67696/50 Belfast Union

I have, &c.

To the Secretary, Board of Poor Law Supervision, Edinburgh.

(signed) *W. Stanley*, Secretary.

Catherine M'Ewen, on her Oath saith,

I AM the wife of John M'Ewen, who deserted me in Haddington, in Scotland, two years ago. We have lived there for eight years, and neither my husband nor myself have ever had any parochial relief either in food, money, or medical attendance. My husband was born in Turnent or Traunent, in Scotland, a few miles from Haddington. I am a native

No. 67696/50 Belfast Union

* The above rule was modified by Article V. of "Rules as to Medical Relief to the Poor," approved by the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart., one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, 21st October 1848; viz., "Medical attendance and medical or surgical appliances which are furnished by the medical officer, or procured from a laboratory on his prescription, are chargeable under the head of medical relief; but nutritious diet, cordials, clothing, suitable lodging, sick-bed attendance, and such appliances and means as are not furnished by the medical attendant, nor procured from a laboratory on his prescription, are not chargeable under the head of medical relief; and inspectors of the poor are required to prepare the annual returns transmitted to the Board of Supervision in conformity with this rule."

Appendix, No. 9.

native of Belfast. My children, aged 4½ years and 2½ years, have been visited and relieved by the parish doctor.

The inspector of Haddington, Mr. Swineburn, on my application for a copy of the order of removal, promised to give it me when I went on board, but did not do so. Haddington is all one parish; I was removed by force against my will by the police. No medical man examined me or my children with reference to our ability to bear removal. I was kept in gaol at Haddington for two days. The policeman who saw me on board is named "Adams." I was not examined by the magistrates, and I really believe there was no warrant for my removal, as I asked Mr. Swineburn for it.

Gillis, the policeman, broke open my door in the presence of the inspector, and by his orders. My property is still in my room there, in Market-street, Haddington, owned by Mr. John Boyle, the landlord.

her
Sworn before me at Belfast, *Catherine* × *M'Ewen.*
4th December 1850. mark.
(signed) *Edward Senior.* Witness, *E. Senior.*

II.

Sir, Haddington, 14 December 1850.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of yesterday's date; and for the information of the Board of Supervision herewith enclose copy petition, certificate, declaration, and warrant under which Catherine M'Ewan and her two children were removed to Ireland; together with statement of the particulars of her case, which shows that the declaration emitted by her before Mr. Senior at Belfast, is at variance with the truth; I beg further to state that the circumstances connected with the removal of the pauper were fully reported and approved of by our parochial Board.

I am, &c.
William Smythe, Esq., (signed) *Thomas Kemp,*
Secretary, Board of Supervision, Edinburgh. Inspector.

(No. 2.) Enclosures.

Unto Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of *Haddington*, or any Two of their Number, the PETITION and COMPLAINT of *Thomas Kemp*, Inspector of the Poor of the Parish of *Haddington.*

Humbly showeth,

THAT by statute 8 & 9 Victoria, chap. 83, intituled, "An Act for the Amendment and better Administration of the Laws relating to the Relief of the Poor in Scotland," it is enacted, section 77, "That if any poor person born in England, Ireland, or the Isle of Man, and not having acquired a settlement in any parish or combination in Scotland, shall be in the course of receiving parochial relief in any parish or combination in Scotland, then and in such case it shall be lawful for the sheriff, or any two justices of the peace of the county in which such parish, or any portion thereof is situate, and they are hereby authorized and required, upon complaint made by the inspector of the poor, or other officer appointed by the parochial Board of such parish or combination, that such poor person has become chargeable to such parish or combination by himself or his family, to cause such person to be brought before them, and to examine such person or any witness, on oath, touching the place of the birth or last legal settlement of such person, and to take such other evidence or other measures as may by them be deemed necessary for ascertaining whether he has gained any settlement in Scotland; and if it shall be found by such sheriff or justices that the person so brought before them was born either in England or Ireland, or the Isle of Man, and has not gained any settlement in Scotland, and has actually become chargeable to the complaining parish or combination by himself or his family, then such sheriff or justices shall, and they are hereby empowered, by an order of removal under their hands, which order may be drawn up in the form of the Schedule (A.) hereunto annexed, to cause such poor person, his wife, and such of his children as may not have gained a settlement in Scotland, to be removed by sea or land, by and at the expense of the complaining parish, to England or Ireland, or the Isle of Man respectively, according as such poor person shall belong to England, Ireland, or the Isle of Man: Provided always, that no person shall be so removed until there has been obtained a certificate, on soul and conscience, by a regular medical practitioner, setting forth that the health of such person, his wife and children as aforesaid, is such as to admit of such removal: Provided also, that nothing herein contained shall prevent any parochial Board, or their inspector, from making arrangements for the due and proper removal of such poor persons either by land or water, provided the arrangement be made with the consent of such poor persons themselves."

And that, by statute 10 & 11 Vict., chap. 33, intituled, "An Act to amend the Laws relating to the removal of Poor Persons from England and Scotland," it is enacted, section 2, "That it shall be lawful for any inspector of the poor, or other officer appointed by the parochial Board of any parish or combination in Scotland, to take and convey before the sheriff, or any two justices of the peace of the county in which the parish or combination for which such inspector or officer acts, or any portion thereof, is situated, without previous complaint or warrant in that behalf, every poor person who shall be in the course of receiving parochial relief in any parish or combination in Scotland, and who, he may have reason to believe,

believe, is liable to be removed from Scotland under the secondly-recited Act (8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, s. 77); and the sheriff or justices before whom any such person shall be so brought, shall make such examination, and proceed in the same manner in all respects as if such person had been brought before him or them under and in the manner directed by that Act."

That Catherine M'Ewan, now or lately residing at Haddington, was born in Ireland, and is in the course of receiving parochial relief from the parish of Haddington, although the said Catherine M'Ewan has not acquired a settlement in any parish or combination in Scotland, or, if acquired, has not retained such settlement: That the said Catherine M'Ewan, and two children, viz., Mary and Thomas M'Ewan, have not gained a settlement in Scotland, and that the said Catherine M'Ewan and her two children have actually become chargeable to the said parish of Haddington, in consequence of which it has become necessary to remove the said paupers to Ireland.

May it therefore please your Honours to inquire into and consider what is before set forth, and it being judicially admitted by the said Catherine M'Ewan, or otherwise proved in the manner prescribed by the said statute, that the said Catherine M'Ewan was born in Ireland, and has not acquired, or, if acquired, has not retained a settlement in any parish in Scotland, and that Catherine M'Ewan and her two children, Mary and Thomas M'Ewan, have actually become chargeable to the said parish of Haddington, and that the health of the said Catherine M'Ewan and her two children, Mary and Thomas M'Ewan, is such as to admit of their removal, to grant the necessary order for their removal to Ireland accordingly; or to do otherwise in the premises as your Honours may see cause, all in terms of the foresaid Acts of Parliament.

According to justice, &c.
(signed) *Thomas Kemp*, Inspector of Poor.

CERTIFICATE by a REGULAR MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

I HEREBY solemnly declare, on soul and conscience, that the health of Catherine M'Ewan, and her two children, Mary and Thomas M'Ewan aforesaid, is such as to admit of their removal, as above craved, either by land or water.

Dated Haddington, 16 March 1850. (signed) *William Martine*, M.D.
19 November 1850. (signed) *Thomas Howden*, jun., M.D.
28 November 1850. (signed) *Thomas Howden*, jun., M.D.

Haddington, 16 March 1850.

DEPOSITION of the said Catherine M'Ewan, who, being solemnly sworn, declares that she has no settlement in any parish or combination in Scotland; that she was born in Ireland, and declares that she cannot write; all of which is corroborated by statement produced by the inspector of poor.

(signed) *William Dods*, J.P.
(signed) *John Haldane*, J.P.

ORDER for REMOVAL to *Ireland*.

Haddington, 16 March 1850.

WE, William Dods and John Haldane, two of the justices of the peace of the county of Haddington, having considered the petition and certificate, and the declaration of the said Catherine M'Ewan aforesaid, find the facts set forth in the petition proved, and we do hereby order and adjudge the said Catherine M'Ewan, and her two children, who have become, and are now actually chargeable to the parish of Haddington, to be removed and conveyed to Ireland, in pursuance of the provisions of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., cap. 83, sect. 77.

(signed) *William Dods*, J.P.
(signed) *John Haldane*, J.P.

STATEMENT for *Thomas Kemp*, Inspector of Poor, Haddington, in *Catherine M'Ewan's* Case.

CATHERINE M'EWAN and her husband, John M'Ewan, were born in Ireland, and came to Scotland in search of employment; he was a labourer, and had five children by the pauper: she was deserted by her husband on or about the year 1848, since which date she and her children have frequently received parish relief during the winter 1849-50; her two children were (one or both) attended by the parochial surgeon, during which time everything was done for the family that could promote their health and comfort. The parochial Board, on the circumstances being represented to them, ordered the family to be sent to Ireland, it appearing from the Schedule of Application produced, that she had not acquired and retained any settlement in Scotland. This order of the Board was carried into effect

Appendix, No. 9.

on the 17th March 1850, under warrant by William Dods and John Haldane, Esquires, justices of the peace for the county of Haddington; shortly after being so removed to Ireland, she returned to Scotland with the two children named in the warrant, and at same time bringing with her her eldest son, a lad about 14 years of age, who was previous to that date an inmate of the poorhouse of her native parish; the authorities thereof having given her six shillings to convey the family back to Scotland. On reaching Glasgow she applied for and obtained parochial relief from the Towns Hospital, making at that time the following statement to the inspector of that parish, viz.:

CASE of *Catherine Muirhead* or *M'Ewing*.

Office of Parochial Board, Towns Hospital, Glasgow,
15 April 1850.

"Inspector of Poor, Haddington,—Sir,

"APPLICANT is 29 years of age, born in Ireland, residing in Night Asylum, wants to be sent to Haddington, husband, John M'Ewing, aged 32, born in Ireland, a labourer, lives in Tyne-close, Haddington, second low door; works with Mr. Hanning, mason in Tynningham. Applicant left Haddington on Wednesday last and came to Glasgow in search of her son William, who ran away from her house eight days ago, and she brought with her two children, and now applies to be sent home, as she has neither meat, money, nor lodgings; she states that they have resided in Tyne-close one year; before in 11, Nowgate, one year; before in Cairn's-close, one year; before in Heymouth, one year; Sidegate-lane, two years; Tyne-close, one year; before was in lodgings at different places for upwards of two years. An early admission will oblige.

"I am, &c.
(signed) "*Alexander Maxwell Adams*, M.D.,
"Inspector."

On being made aware of the real history of the case, Dr. Adams did not proceed against her for wilful imposition, but allows her to walk away, and shortly thereafter she reaches Haddington with her family, now increased to three children. On or about the month of October last, she again applied for and obtained relief, which was reported to next meeting of the parochial Board thereafter, who instructed the inspector to have her again sent to Ireland. The warrant obtained for her former removal lying on the table was held sufficient by the Board for her removal under the circumstances, a second time, a fresh medical certificate having first been obtained. She was removed accordingly about the end of November last; the day previous thereto she was lodged in a comfortable room (not the gaol) with a female attendant; as about ten days prior, she resisted the removing officer and effected her escape. The man Adams did accompany the assistant-inspector, Mr. Swinburn, not as an officer, which he is not, but as an assistant, which was on the present occasion rendered necessary by the woman's threats; there was no force whatever used on her removal. As to the warrant, it was all the while in my assistant's pocket, of which she was fully aware; besides, but a few days before I read the warrant in her hearing, at the same time intimating to her the Board's determination to have her removed, in which she seemed to acquiesce. A copy of the warrant not having been asked was not given to her. The woman repeatedly stated to me that her husband was born in Ireland, and the man's verbal statement to a neighbour to that effect could be obtained. If any person broke open the door of her lodgings it was unknown to me, and not by my authority.

III.

Sir, Haddington, 16 December 1850.

REFERRING to my letter and enclosure of the 14th current, in Catherine M'Ewan's case, I beg herewith to enclose copy indorsation on the warrant of removal, which was omitted in the copy sent for the information of the Board of Supervision.

I am, &c.
William Smythe, Esq., Secretary, (signed) *Thos. Kemp*, Inspector.
Board of Supervision, Edinburgh.

COPY Indorsation and Warrant of Removal.

Haddington, 28 November 1850.

"The which day the inspector of poor appeared before me and produced the above warrant of removal, which I consider to be still in force against the said pauper, and think it unnecessary for her to be brought before me under the circumstances."

(signed) *George More*, J. P.

IV.

Appendix, No. 9.

Sir, 20 December 1850.

The Board of Supervision for relief of the poor in Scotland, have had under their consideration your letter of the 11th of December, with copy of evidence of a woman named Catherine M'Ewan, relative to the removal of herself and two children from Haddington to Belfast.

A copy of a statement made by the inspector of poor of Haddington, along with a copy of the petition and order of removal, are herewith transmitted, by direction of the Board of Supervision, for the information of the Commissioners for administering the laws for relief of the poor, in Ireland, in regard to this matter.

The Board of Supervision do not consider that any additional observations are necessary on their part.

(signed) *W. Smythe*, Secretary.

W. Stanley, Esq.

V.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
24 December 1850.

Sir,

I am directed by the Commissioners for administering the laws for relief of the poor in Ireland, to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 13th and 20th instant, relative to the case of a woman named Catherine M'Ewan and her two children, who had been removed from Haddington, in Scotland, to Belfast, and I am to express the thanks of the Commissioners for your communications. No. 70333/50. Belfast Union.

I have, &c.

W. Smythe, Esq., Secretary, Board of Supervision, Edinburgh.

(signed) *W. Stanley*, Secretary.

VI.

Sir, Haddington, 5 June 1854.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3d current, with reference to Catherine M'Ewan and two children, noticed in my removal return.

The woman was removed to Ireland in November 1850, and, after being several weeks in the Belfast Poorhouse, she was allowed to return to this parish, where she has resided ever since.

On a former occasion she stated that she had been sent back; but, from the tissue of falsehoods emitted in her declaration before Mr. Senior, at Belfast, in 1850, it appears that her word is not to be relied on. She now states that she pawned part of her clothes, and got as much as paid her passage to Glasgow.

About a twelvemonth before that she was removed for the first time by me, but never entered the poorhouse at Belfast on that occasion; she states that she got 6*s*. from a clergyman at that time (but cannot recollect his name), to pay for her conveyance to Scotland.

The correspondence between the Board of Supervision, the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland, and this parish, in 1850, explains the whole circumstances of the case.

I am, &c.

The Secretary to The Board of Supervision, Edinburgh.

(signed) *Thos. Kemp*, Inspector.

I.

Documents relating to the Case of *Mary M'Loughlin.*

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
17 April 1852.

Sir,

I am directed by the Commissioners for administering the laws for relief of the poor in Ireland to forward to you, to be laid before the Board of Supervision in Scotland, the accompanying copies of documents which have been transmitted to the Commissioners by their inspector, Mr. Senior, on the subject of the removal of a female named Mary M'Loughlin, from Scotland to Belfast, who appears to have been labouring under disease at the period of her removal. No. 22763/52. Belfast Union.

In reference thereto I am to request that the Board of Supervision will have the goodness to institute inquiry into the circumstances connected with the removal of this woman.

The Commissioners at the same time direct me to refer to the proviso contained in s. 77 of the Act 8 & 9 Vict., c. 73, which requires that previously to the removal of any person under the provisions of that section, a medical certificate shall be obtained of a regular medical practitioner, setting forth that the health of such person is such as to admit of such removal, and the Commissioners are desirous of being informed whether a medical certificate was obtained in accordance with the provisions of that section, previously to the removal of this person, setting forth that her health was such as to admit of such removal.

I have, &c.

The Secretary of the Board of Supervision, Edinburgh.

(signed) *W. Stanley*, Secretary.

Appendix, No. 9.

Enclosure 1.

Statement on Oath.

No. 22763/52. Belfast Union.

In the Case of *Mary M'Loughlin* (sent by the Authorities from *Scotland*, and now an Inmate in the *Belfast* Workhouse), directed by the Board at their Meeting on the 24th March, to be prepared and laid before them at their next Meeting.

Is a native of the county of Leitrim, and when an infant was taken by her father, a labourer, to Edinburgh, with whom she lived, and by him was supported until his death which took place about three years past.

Shortly after that event, she went to service in a farmer's house, near Edinburgh, and continued supporting herself by servitude, varied only by a short period which she wrought in a mill in Dundee, from the father's death until November last, during which time she never sought for, or received any relief, parochial or otherwise.

In or about November 1851, being afflicted with syphilis, she made application at, and was admitted into the Infirmary in Edinburgh, in which she remained for a period of five weeks and two days dangerously bad, so much so that during said time she was unable to remain out of bed a single day; was treated for that disease in the Infirmary, when she was taken at seven o'clock at night out of her bed by a man (who subsequently escorted her to Belfast); was brought by him to, and kept in the workhouse that night; next day was brought before the sheriff (as she supposes), interrogated by him as to place of birth, was sworn and made affix her mark to some document, of the contents of which she is ignorant; was then brought back to the workhouse, kept there that night and next day; was taken by train to Glasgow, and from thence here.

She got no treatment for her disease during the time she was in the workhouse, nor until she arrived in Belfast; and the consequence was, that the disease was augmented by reason of the neglect, and was under treatment here for six weeks before pronounced well; has got some few articles of clothing where she had lodged in Edinburgh; asked permission to go for them while in the workhouse there, which was refused.

(signed) *Mary* × *M'Loughlin.*

Sworn before me at Belfast, 31 March 1852, Witness, *Edw^d Senior.*

Edw^d Senior.

Enclosure 2.

Order for Removal to Ireland.

Council Chambers, Edinburgh, 7 January 1852.

We, Robert Symington Grieve and Thomas Clapperton, Esquires, two of the justices of the peace of the city of Edinburgh, do hereby order and adjudge Mary M'Loughlin, a native of County Leitrim in Ireland, who has become, and is now actually chargeable to the parish of Edinburgh, to be removed and conveyed to Ireland, in pursuance of the provisions of an Act made and passed in the eighth and ninth years of the reign of Queen Victoria, intituled, "An Act for the amendment and better administration of the Laws relating to the Relief of the Poor in Scotland" (4 August 1845); and also of another Act made and passed in the 10th and 11th years of the reign of Her said Majesty, intituled, "An Act to amend the Laws relating to the removal of poor persons from England and Scotland" (21st June 1847). Five words *delete.*

(signed) *R. S. Grieve,* J. P.
Thos. Clapperton, J. P.

Enclosure 3.

Mr. *Cunningham Mulholland,* medical officer of the Belfast Workhouse, on his oath saith: I remember the case of Mary M'Loughlin, aged 17; she was admitted to the workhouse infirmary on the 8th of January last, labouring under inflammation of the glands of the groin, the result of syphilis. I consider her to have been in an improper state to have been removed from Scotland, but not a dangerous state; she remained under treatment 19 days, and was discharged cured.

(signed) *Cunningham Mulholland.*

Sworn before me at Belfast, 31 March 1852.
Edw^d Senior.

II.

Sir, Board of Supervision, Edinburgh, 24 April 1852.

I have submitted to the Board of Supervision your letter of the 17th of April 1852, with the accompanying documents relative to the removal of a female named Mary M'Loughlin (or M'Lauchlan) from Edinburgh to Belfast, and I am now, by direction of the Board, to transmit

transmit to you the enclosed certified copy of medical certificate, produced with, and referred to, in the petition and complaint preferred against her previous to the warrant for her removal being granted. Appendix, No. 9.

I am, &c.

W. Stanley, Esq.
Poor Law Commissioner, Dublin.

(signed) *W. Smythe,*
Secretary.

Enclosure.

COPY Medical Certificate referred to in the Petition and Complaint at the instance of *Alexander Greig*, one of the Inspectors of the Poor for the Parish of the City of Edinburgh, against *Mary M'Lauchlan*, residing in the Poorhouse of the Parish of the City of Edinburgh, a native of Ireland.

Edinburgh, 7 January 1852.

I HEREBY certify, on soul and conscience, that the health of Mary M'Lauchlan is such as to admit of her removal to Ireland.

(signed) *David Brodie*, M. D.

A true copy, certified by,
R. Maham,
Clerk to the Justices of Edinburgh.

III.

EXTRACT LETTER *Alexander Greig* to Sir *John M'Neill.*

Office of Parochial Board, Forrest Road,
Sir, Edinburgh, 12 June 1854.

WITH reference to the cases of the four paupers you gave me a note of, who were removed by warrant to Ireland from this parish, I have now made inquiry, and have to state the result.

1. Case of Mary M'Lauchlan. This pauper was a native of the county of Leitrim, aged 17; came to Scotland six years prior to the autumn of the year 1851; resided first at Jock's Lodge about four months, Portobello about five months, Capperstone, near North Berwick, eighteen months; Portobello six weeks; Old Fishmarket-close, Edinburgh, nine months; Tolbooth-wynd, parish of Canongate, six months; Shoemakers' Close, same parish, about a month; then to Blackfriar's-wynd, Edinburgh, four months; then to Dickson's Close, until her admission to the Lock Hospital, where she was treated for venereal disease; was dismissed cured on the 6th January 1852, and taken into the poorhouse, and removed by warrant to Belfast on the 9th of January 1852.

No pauper who is to be removed is refused liberty to go for any clothing they state they have * * * *

I have, &c.

Sir John M'Neill, G.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Alex. Greig,*
Asst. Insp. Law Department.

Appendix, No. 10.

FORM OF ORDER OF REMOVAL.

Appendix, No. 10

REMOVAL TO IRELAND.

BOROUGH of LIVERPOOL, }
In the County of Lancaster. } To wit.

THE examination of taken on oath before us, two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, acting in and for the said borough, this day of 1853, *Who on oath saith,* that according to the best of h knowledge and belief, he was born in the county of in that part of the United Kingdom called IRELAND, which he left about ago, and hath no settlement in that part of the United Kingdom called England, and hath actually become and is now chargeable to the parish of

Appendix, No. 10.

Liverpool, in the said county of Lancaster, and that he hath a wife named and children, neither of which children have gained a settlement in *England*, and hath not resided in the said parish of Liverpool for five years next preceding the day and year first above-mentioned.

Sworn the day and year first above written before us,

To WILLIAM WOOD, and also to the Master of the Ship or Vessel called the lying in the Port of Liverpool aforesaid.

BOROUGH OF LIVERPOOL, In the County of Lancaster. } To wit.

WHEREAS, complaint hath been made by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the parish of Liverpool aforesaid, unto us, whose names are hereunto set and seals affixed, two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the borough of Liverpool aforesaid, that a person born in IRELAND, hath become and is now chargeable to the said parish of Liverpool, and hath not resided in the said parish of Liverpool for five years next before this application and complaint.

And whereas, upon examination of the said taken upon oath before us (which examination is hereunto annexed), it doth appear to our satisfaction that he was born in Ireland, and hath not a settlement in *England*, and that he hath a wife named and Children, videlicet.

neither of which Children has any Settlement in *England*.

THESE ARE THEREFORE to require you, the said WILLIAM WOOD and the Master of the aforesaid Ship or Vessel to convey the said , his Wife and Children aforesaid to IRELAND, in the manner directed by the Regulations of the Justices of the said Borough, and approved by the Right honourable Sir J. R. G. GRAHAM, Baronet, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, in pursuance of the provisions of a certain Act made and passed in the ninth year of the Reign of Queen Victoria, intituled, "An Act to amend the Laws *relating to the Removal of poor Persons born in Scotland, Ireland, the Islands of Man, Scilly, Jersey, or Guernsey*, and chargeable in England."

Given under our Hands and Seals at Liverpool aforesaid, the day of 1853.

(SEAL.)
(SEAL.)

The Pass House, 18, Rigby-street.

BOROUGH of LIVERPOOL, to wit.

AT a Petty Sessions of the Justices of the Peace of and for the said Borough, held in and for the said Borough, on the 3d day of April, in the Year of our Lord 1846.

THE Justices aforesaid having taken into their consideration the provisions of the Statute passed in the ninth year of the reign of Her Majesty, intituled, "An Act to amend the Laws *relating to the Removal of Poor Persons born in Scotland, Ireland, the Islands of Man, Scilly, Jersey, or Guernsey*, and chargeable in England," which requires them to make regulations for the more effectually carrying into effect the provisions of the said Act, DO HEREBY ORDER as follows; that is to say,

We do order that the overseers who shall apply for any warrant of removal under the said Statute, shall nominate to the Justices making the same, some person to be the conductor of the parties to the vessel, if embarked at this port, and if to be embarked at any other port, then to the port of embarkation, and that all such warrants shall be directed to him and to the master of the vessel to whom he shall deliver the same.

That all natives of Scotland to be removed shall be conveyed by a steam-vessel from this port to one of the ports of Dumfries, Ayr, Greenock, Glasgow, Oban, Inverness, Aberdeen, Dundee, or Edinburgh, which are nearest to the places where such persons were born or have resided, unless such persons shall consent to be removed to any other port or place of Scotland.

That all natives of Ireland shall be conveyed from this port by a steam-vessel to one of the ports of Dublin, Wexford, Waterford, Cork, Limerick, Derry, Belfast, or Dundalk, which

which are nearest to the places where such persons were born or have resided, unless such persons shall consent to be removed to any other port.

That all natives of the Isle of Man shall be conveyed from this port by a steam-vessel to the port of Douglas.

That all natives of the Islands of Scilly, Jersey, and Guernsey shall, when practicable, be conveyed from this port by steam-packets or sailing vessels to either of those islands to which they belong; and when impracticable, the Justices making the order shall direct such persons to be conveyed by railway by the cheapest train for passengers, to such port of embarkation as they may think most convenient, and from thence by steam-packet or sailing vessel, to such of those islands as they shall belong.

That all such persons shall be conveyed on the decks of the vessels or in the steerage, according to the season of the year, or on deck part of the way and in the steerage the remainder, as the Justices who order their removal may direct.

That no such person shall be removed whilst labouring under any sickness which may either render it dangerous to the health, or may incapacitate such person from being removed in the manner aforesaid.

That no such person shall be detained previous to being conveyed on board the vessel, or conducted to the port of embarkation as directed, without sufficient cause be proved for such detention.

That the conductor shall see that the persons who are to be conveyed by sea are safely delivered to the master of the packet on board the vessel, and shall not quit them until the vessel is actually under sail.

That the conductor shall deliver a duplicate of the warrant to the master of the steam-vessel, and obtain his receipt on the back of the order of removal for the bodies of the parties on board and the payment of the passage-money, and with an undertaking to convey them to and land them at their respective places of disembarkation.

That an allowance shall be made for the maintenance and lodging of each person above the age of 10 years, of not exceeding 2 *s.* per day, and of each person under 10 years of not exceeding 1 *s.* per day.

That the passage money (including rations) of each person above the age of 10 years, from this port to Cork, not to exceed 13 *s.*; persons under that age, 6 *s.* 6 *d.* To Waterford, above the age of 10, not to exceed 10 *s.* 6 *d.*; under that age, 5 *s.* To Derry and Wexford, above the age of 10, not to exceed 7 *s.*; under that age, 3 *s.* 6 *d.* To Dublin and Belfast, of all ages except children in arms, not to exceed 4 *s.* 6 *d.* To Dundalk, above the age of 10, not to exceed 4 *s.* 6 *d.*; under that age, 2 *s.* 3 *d.*

To Dumfries, Greenock, and Glasgow, above the age of 10, not to exceed 7 *s.*; under that age, 3 *s.* 6 *d.*

As the conductor will in all cases be a salaried officer of the parish, the magistrates do not consider it necessary to make any regulation as to the allowance to him.

The fees to be paid for the warrant of removal and duplicate, and the copies of examinations are settled by the table of fees to be taken by the clerks of the justices of this borough, and allowed by the Secretary of State.

By order of the Justices,

Ellis and *Wybergh*,
Clerks to the Justices.

I approve of the foregoing Regulations,

Whitehall, 25 April 1846. *J. R. G. Graham.*

Liverpool, day of 1853.

Received on board the Steam packet, the Persons named in the annexed Pass, and also the sum of shillings and pence for the passage money, and I undertake to convey them to and land them at in Ireland.

, Master.

, Agent.

Appendix, No. 11.

SUMMARY OF VAGRANTS AND TRAMPS.

Half-year ending March 1853.		Half-year ending March 1854.		Decrease 28th March 1854.	
Applicants:		Applicants:		Applicants:	
Males - - - -	297	Males - - - -	170	Males - - - -	127
Females - - - -	83	Females - - - -	65	Females - - - -	18
Children - - - -	69	Children - - - -	56	Children - - - -	13
TOTAL - - -	449	TOTAL - - -	291	TOTAL Decrease - -	158
England - - - -	211	England - - -	145	England - - -	66
Wales - - - -	29	Wales - - - -	20	Wales - - - -	9
Scotland - - - -	27	Scotland - - -	21	Scotland - - -	6
Ireland - - - -	174	Ireland - - - -	98	Ireland - - - -	76
Foreigners - - -	8	Foreigners - - -	7	Foreigners - - -	1
TOTAL - - -	449	TOTAL - - -	291	TOTAL Decrease - -	158
Applicants relieved - -	330	Applicants relieved - -	248	Decrease in applicants relieved - - -	82
Applicants refused - -	119	Applicants refused - -	43	Decrease in applicants refused - - - -	76
	449		291		158

ABSTRACT FROM GENERAL STATEMENT.

	Persons.	Cases.	Amount.	TOTALS. Persons.	Cases.	Amount.	Average per Case.
			£. s. d.			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Irish Township Poor:							
Having a settlement - -	39	16	79 15 6½	538	200	319 11 –	1 11 11
Removable - - - -	499	184	239 15 6				
Irish Irremovable Poor:							
Having five years residence -	248	98	411 14 7	903	315	686 8 6½	2 3 2
Not having five years residence -	655	217	274 13 11½				
TOTAL - - -				1,441	515	1,005 19 6½	1 19 –

	Persons.	Cases.	Amount.	TOTALS. Persons.	Cases.	Amount.	Average per Case.	Proportion of Paupers having a Settlement or Five Years Residence to the Aggregate 1441.
Irish Township Poor, and Irish Irremovable Poor:			£. s. d.			£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
Not having five years residence - -	655	217	274 13 11½	1,154	401	514 9 5½	1 5 8	One pauper in five ha either a settlement o five years residence, viz 1,154 removable, &c 287 settled.
Removable - -	499	184	239 15 6					1,441
Having five years residence - -	248	98	411 14 7	287	114	491 10 1	4 6 2½	The estimated num ber of the pauper clas in Birkenhead alone, i 4,825; which in relativ proportion would give 3,860 without settle ment, &c. 965 with settlemen &c.
Having a settlement	39	16	79 15 6					4,825
TOTAL - - -				1,441	515	1,005 19 6½		
Tramps Relieved - - - -				146	- -	2 14 9		
GRAND TOTAL - - -				1,587	£.	1,008 14 2½		

SUMMARY OF LODGING-HOUSES.

NAME OF STREET.	Number of Houses.	Number of Tenants.	LODGING-HOUSE KEEPER'S FAMILY.				LODGERS' FAMILIES.				TOTAL.			
			Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.
Field - - - - -	27	57	75	78	120	273	45	57	66	168	120	135	186	441
Oak - - - - -	46	55	90	60	91	241	70	78	102	250	160	138	193	491
St. Ann - - - - -	28	28	26	27	63	116	42	48	94	184	68	75	157	300
Wilbraham-terrace - -	11	11	6	6	30	42	5	7	12	24	11	13	42	66
Albert-terrace - - -	14	14	12	14	36	62	9	9	9	27	21	23	45	89
Grand Totals - - -	126	185	209	185	340	734	171	199	283	653	380	384	623	1,387

Persons Ordered to the Workhouse.

HALF-YEAR ENDING	Irish.	Scotch.	English.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
27 September 1853 -	171	11	66	29	92	127	248
28 March 1854 - -	503	4	161	141	191	336	668
	674	15	227	170	283	463	916
Admitted - - -	56	5	66	16	42	69	127
	618	10	161	154	241	394	789

Refused to enter - - - 789.

Date, Number Relieved, &c.; Applications on Board Days, 18th July 1853, and 18th January 1854; and Orders of the Board, 18th of January 1854, in the various Cases.

DATE.	NUMBER RELIEVED, &c.				APPLICATIONS ON BOARD DAYS.										ORDERS of the BOARD 18th of January 1854, in the various Cases.							
					18 JULY 1853.					18 JANUARY 1854.												
	Males.	Females.	Children.	TOTAL.		Males.	Females.	Children.	TOTAL.	Cases.	Males.	Females.	Children.	TOTAL.	Cases.	Relieved.	Offered the House.	To be Removed to Ireland.	No Appearance.	Offered the Hospital.	Refused the Hospital.	Pay Discontinued.	TOTAL.
1853:																							
July 1 - -	69	265	376	710	English - -	3	15	14	32	17	29	31	64	124	40								
1854:					Irish - -	10	19	36	65	21	113	138	267	518	166								
January 1 -	63	269	305	682	Scotch - -	–	–	–	–	–	1	4	9	14	4								
					Total - -	13	34	50	97	38	143	173	340	656	210	70	93	4	22	12	4	5	210

IRISH PERSONS ordered to be Removed to *Ireland*, in the Year ending March 1854.

Ordered to be Passed by the Board.				Passed to Ireland.				Passes not Signed by Magistrates.				Refused to take the Pass.			
Males.	Females.	Children.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	Children.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	Children.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	Children.	TOTAL.
7	28	71	106	9*	8	13	30	–	5	15	20†	–	15	43	58

* Two men passed by Order of the Magistrates are here added to the number Ordered by the Board to be passed.

† The following cases are now chargeable with consent of the Board, on a recommendation of the Magistrates: Jane Cavanagh, and four children; Catherine Cahill, and two children; Margaret Murray, and two children; Ann Nugent, and four children; Mary Holichan, and three children; Jane Sweeny, and four children. Total, 5 females and 15 children.

Appendix, No. 12.

Appendix, No. 12.

PAPER delivered in by Mr. *William Cleaver*, 6 July 1854.

WEST DERBY UNION.

STATEMENT of the Number and Cost of REMOVALS of IRISH and SCOTCH POOR during the Three Parochial Years ended Lady-day 1854.

MONTH.	1851–2.			1852–3.			1853–4.			TOTALS.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
April - -	4	11	15	6	8	14	7	14	21	17	33	50
May - -	9	13	22	8	8	16	3	11	14	20	32	52
June - -	10	16	26	5	14	19	7	13	20	22	43	65
July - -	8	27	35	8	25	33	9	9	18	25	61	86
August -	15	17	32	3	12	15	2	4	6	20	33	53
September -	12	17	29	3	7	10	5	12	17	20	36	56
October -	10	15	25	12	10	22	6	13	19	28	38	66
November -	9	9	18	3	11	14	5	14	19	17	34	51
December -	8	18	26	3	7	10	9	12	21	20	37	57
January -	12	17	29	1	6	7	20	16	36	33	39	72
February -	26	47	73	5	3	8	2	12	14	33	62	95
March -	19	51	70	5	9	14	3	4	7	27	64	91
TOTAL - -	142	258	400	62	120	182	78	134	212	282	512	794

	1851–2.	1852–3.	1853–4.	TOTAL.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Cost - -	138 2 7	74 5 4	113 16 –	326 3 11

or averaging 264 per annum, at 108 *l.* 14 *s.* 7 *d.* for the three years.

Average expense per head of removal in the three years given - - - - 8 *s.* 2½ *d.*

Appendix, No. 13.

PAPER delivered in by Mr. *M. M'Nerney*, Relieving Officer, 6 July 1854.

WIRRALL UNION (Commercial District).

STATISTICAL STATEMENT of Relief for the Year ending March 1854.

POPULATION.			AREA in ACRES.	TOWNSHIPS.	COUNTRIES.	ABLE-BODIED.																NOT ABLE-BODIED.										TOTALS.						SUMMARY OF CO							
						ADULTS, MALE AND FEMALE, MARRIED OR SINGLE, RELIEVED IN CONSEQUENCE OF THEIR OWN SICKNESS OR OF THEIR FAMILIES.										WIDOWS, AND THEIR CHILDREN UNDER SIXTEEN, DEPENDENT.								MALES, FEMALES, AND THEIR CHILDREN, AND ORPHANS.										PERSONS, CASES, AND AMOUNT.						ENGLAND.				IRELAND.			
						HAVING A SETTLEMENT.						REMOVABLE.						HAVING A SETTLEMENT.						REMOVABLE.						HAVING A SETTLEMENT.						REMOVABLE.													
						Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Widows.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Widows.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Persons.	Cases.	Amount.	Average per Case.	Persons.	Cases.	Amount.	Average per Case.	Persons.
											£. s. d.						£. s. d.					£. s. d.					£. s. d.						£. s. d.						£. s. d.					£. s. d.			£. s. d.			£. s. d.	
1,166	1,076	29,103	543	BIRKENHEAD -	English	6	10	25	41	11	30 11 6	14	34	71	119	39	75 18 3	7	14	21	7	41 10 8	13	47	60	13	59 18 6	10	29	10	49	32	182 8 2½	12	26	12	50	36	117 8 9	42	119	179	340	138	483 9 5½							
					Irish	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	71	81	218	370	120		–	–	–	–	– –	13	26	39	14	46 6 –	3	6	5	14	6	31 6 –	13	21	10	44	32	77 1 9	87	121	259	467	172	230 12 –							
					Scotch	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	1	1	2	1	– 12 6	1	4	5	1	14 12 1	1	2	3	1	7 16 9	–	1	–	1	1	– 16 –	1	2	–	3	3	11 17 –	1	1	4	6	1	– 12 –							
					Foreigners	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	1	1	4	6	1	– 12 –	–	–	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	1	1	4	6	1	– 12 –							
					TOTAL	6	10	25	41	11	30 11 6	86	117	294	497	161	128 14 7	8	18	26	8	56 2 9	27	75	102	28	114 1 3	13	36	15	64	39	214 10 2½	26	49	22	97	71	206 7 6	131	2,471	449	827	318	750 7 9½	340	138	483 9 5½	3 10 –	467	172	230 12 –	1 6 9	14
316	188	7,708	1,043	TRANMERE - -	English	–	1	1	2	1	– 8 6	4	10	27	41	10	30 5 –	9	34	43	10	70 4 –	5	12	17	5	22 12 –	7	17	11	35	23	148 1 3	4	9	19	32	14	40 11 –	15	51	104	170	63	312 1 9							
					Irish	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	1	1	–	2	1	1 2 –	–	–	–	–	– –	1	2	3	1	6 10 –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	2	2	7	11	3	1 10 –	3	4	9	16	5	9 2 –							
					Scotch	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –							
					Foreigners	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	– – –	1	1	2	4	1	9 2 –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	1	1	2	4	1	9 2 –							
					TOTAL	–	1	1	2	1	– 8 6	5	11	27	43	11	31 7 –	9	34	43	10	70 4 –	6	14	20	6	29 2 –	8	18	13	39	24	157 3 3	6	11	26	43	17	42 1 –	19	56	115	190	69	330 5 9	170	63	312 1 9	4 19 –	16	5	9 2 –	1 16 4	–
294	95	4,468	841	LISCARD - -	English	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	1	3	4	8	4	1 15 –	–	–	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	– –	2	10	6	18	10	50 16 –	2	2	–	4	3	6 1 6	5	15	10	30	17	58 12 6							
					Irish	–	2	7	9	2	15 12 –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	1	2	3	1	7 16 –	1	5	6	1	– 5 –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	2	5	–	7	6	22 8 –	2	9	14	25	10	46 1 –							
					Scotch	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	1	4	5	1	10 8 –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	1	4	5	1	10 8 –							
					Foreigners	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –							
					TOTAL	–	2	7	9	2	15 12 –	1	3	4	8	4	1 15 –	2	6	8	2	18 4 –	1	5	6	1	– 5 –	2	10	6	18	10	50 16 –	4	7	–	11	9	28 9 6	7	25	28	60	28	115 1 6	30	17	58 12 6	3 8 11	25	10	46 1 –	4 12 1	5
272	69	3,223	646	POULTON-CUM-SEACOMBE.	English	1	2	3	6	3	9 – –	2	2	6	10	3	2 – –	3	10	13	3	20 – –	2	4	6	2	11 6 –	7	15	–	22	18	106 5 –	1	1	3	5	2	2 8 –	11	25	26	62	31	150 19 –							
					Irish	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	3	9	12	3	1 10 6	–	–	–	–	– –	1	2	3	1	5 4 –	2	6	5	13	7	25 1 6	1	1	–	2	2	2 – –	3	11	16	30	13	33 16 –							
					Scotch	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	1	–	1	1	6 14 –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	1	–	1	1	6 14 –							
					Foreigners	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –							
					TOTAL	1	2	3	6	3	9 – –	2	5	15	22	6	3 10 6	3	10	13	3	20 – –	3	6	9	3	16 10 –	9	22	5	36	26	138 – 6	2	2	3	7	4	4 8 –	14	37	42	93	45	191 9 –	62	31	150 19 –	4 17 4	30	13	33 16 –	2 12 –	1
30	13	1,270	1,789	WALLASEY - -	English	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	1	1	2	1	3 18 –	4	12	16	4	23 6 –	–	–	–	–	– –	2	8	5	15	10	37 1 –	–	1	–	1	1	– 5 –	2	14	18	34	16	64 10 –							
					Irish	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –							
					Scotch	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –							
					Foreigners	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –							
					TOTAL	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	1	1	2	1	3 18 –	4	12	16	4	23 6 –	–	–	–	–	– –	2	8	5	15	10	37 1 –	–	1	–	1	1	– 5 –	2	14	18	34	16	64 10 –	34	16	64 10 –	4 – 7	–	–	– –	– –	–
1,078	1,441	45,774	4,802		GRAND TOTAL	7	15	36	58	17	55 12 –	94	137	341	572	183	169 5 1	26	80	106	27	187 16 9	37	100	137	38	159 18 3	34	94	44	172	109	597 10 11½	38	70	51	159	102	281 11 –	173	379	652	1,204	476	1,451 14 –½	636	265	1,069 12 8½	4 0 8	538	200	319 11 –	1 11 11	20

IRREMOVABLE POOR.

ABLE-BODIED.										ABLE-BODIED.								NOT ABLE-BODIED.								TOTAL.						SUMMARY of TOWNSHIPS and COUNTRIES, (as above).				TOTAL of TOWNSHIPS and IRREMOVABLE POOR.			VAGRANTS and TRAMPS.			GRAND TOTA	
ADULTS, MALE AND FEMALE, MARRIED OR SINGLE, RELIEVED IN CONSEQUENCE OF THEIR OWN SICKNESS OR OF THEIR FAMILIES.										WIDOWS, AND THEIR CHILDREN UNDER SIXTEEN, DEPENDENT.								MALES, FEMALES, AND THEIR CHILDREN, AND ORPHANS.								IRREMOVABLE POOR.																	
Having a Five Years' Residence.					Not having a Five Years' Residence.					Having a Five Years' Residence.					Not having a Five Years' Residence.					Having a Five Years' Residence.					Not having a Five Years' Residence.																	
Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.		Male.	Female.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Widows.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Widows.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Males.	Females.	Children.	Total.	Cases.	Amount.	Average per Case.	Persons.	Cases.	Amount.	Average per Case.	Persons.	Cases.	Amount.	Relieved.	Refused.	Amount.	Persons.	Amou
			£. s. d.							£. s. d.					£. s. d.					£. s. d.					£. s. d.						£. s. d.				£. s. d.					£. s. d.		
27	54	14	14 11 5		35	43	94	172	52	40 10 8	21	59	80	21	132 4 8	5	12	17	5	19 5 4½	17	38	24	79	45	212 5 5	13	16	23	52	32	65 7 8	79	136	239	454	169	484 5 2½	2 17 5	636	265	1,069 12 6½	4 – 8	1,090	434	1,553 17 11	243	42	4 11 6½	1,333	1,558
54	54	17	24 16 5½		87	109	263	459	124	109 5 11	27	71	98	28	160 10 8½	23	60	83	26	51 11 4	27	45	41	113	67	113 16 8½	27	45	41	113	67	113 16 8½	153	256	494	903	315	686 8 6½	2 3 2	538	200	319 11 –	1 11 11	1,441	515	1,005 19 6½	146	42	2 14 9	1,587	1,008
6	6	1	4 1 6		1	1	3	5	1	– 2 –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– – –	2	1	4	7	2	7 18 –	–	–	–	–	–	– – –	3	3	12	18	4	12 1 6	3 – 4½	20	9	52 16 4	5 17 4	38	13	64 17 10	29	6	– 10 7½	67	65
–	–	–	– – –		–	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– – –	–	–	–	–	– – –	2	2	2	6	2	7 18 –	2	2	2	6	2	4 9 8	2	2	2	6	2	4 9 8	2 4 10	10	2	9 14 –	4 17 –	16	4	14 3 8	10	–	– 3 9	26	14
59	114	32	43 9 4½		123	153	360	636	177	149 18 7	48	130	178	49	292 15 4½	28	72	100	31	70 16 8½	45	77	60	182	100	446 10 10	42	63	66	171	101	183 14 –½	237	397	747	1,381	490	1,187 4 11	2 8 5	1,204	476	1,451 14 –½	3 – 11	2,585	966	2,638 18 11½	428	90	8 – 8	3,013	2,446

Appendix, No. 14.

pendix, No. 14. LETTER from *Evan David*, Esq., to the Right Hon. *M. T. Baines*, M. P., Chairman.

Sir, Fairwater House, Cardiff, 17 July 1854

In my examination before the Select Committee on "Poor Removal," on Thursday l I was requested to procure for the Committee an account of the number of Irish paup relieved in the years 1847 and 1848.

Believing that the question applied to the period of the Irish famine, which cannot exactly defined, I have taken the liberty of sending the following statement, which sh the number of paupers and the expenditure during each half year, from September 184 September 1850, viz.:

SUMMARY of Irish Paupers Relieved in the Town of *Cardiff*, and the Cost thereof, fr September 1846 to September 1850, paid by the Cardiff Poor Law Union.

	Number of Paupers.	Cost. £. s. d.	Total. £. s.
September 1846 to March 1847	1,804	302 1 –½	
To September 1847	1,751	527 – 1½	
March 1848	1,220	420 8 10¾	
September 1848	947	329 4 –	
March 1849	1,272	387 7 2¾	
September 1849	1,450	469 5 2½	
March 1850	1,702	342 7 4	
September 1850	1,308	265 19 2½	
	11,454		3,043 13 –
Funerals of Irish Paupers in the above four years	493	448 – 8	
Midwifery cases in ditto	183	130 – –	
Removals to Ireland in the three last years only	326	223 17 5	
			801 18 1
Expenses paid by the Cardiff Poor Law Union on account of the Irish famine fever			160 3 4
Amount paid exclusively for Irish Paupers			4,005 14 5

Expenses incurred by the Cardiff Union on account of the Cholera, in 1849, the cases being chiefly Irish, viz.:

	£. s. d.	
Paid medical expenses	770 16 5	
Paid erection of a house of refuge and expenses	442 15 11	
Expenses paid for sanitary purposes	456 10 8	
		1,670 3 –

I have &c.
(signed) *Evan David*,
Chairman of the Cardiff Poor Law Union.

Appen

Appendix, No. 15.

ABSTRACT of Correspondence from the Boards of Guardians in *Ireland* to the Poor Law Commissioners in *Ireland*, the Poor Law Commissioners in *England*, and the Board of Supervision of the Poor in *Scotland*, relative to the Removal of Irish Poor. Appendix, No. 15

No. 1. Abbeyleix Union.—24 November 1853.

Barney Welch states that he left Boley, in the Abbeyleix Union, in the year 1822, and has been since in different towns in England, working as a labourer; was in Halifax about one year, when he was admitted to the workhouse there, and during three years he several times took his discharge from the workhouse and was re-admitted. He was 31 years altogether in England; and on the 27th October last, was taken by the officers of the workhouse at Halifax before the magistrates there, who ordered him to be transmitted to Ireland, the order for so doing having been handed to him.

The clerk communicated to the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland, who replied on the 14th of December 1853, and on the 15th of December the guardians directed the clerk to reply, that Barney Welch did not reside five years in any particular parish in England; and on the 28th December, the Poor Law Commissioners stated that, in their opinion, the Poor Law authorities of the Halifax Union were legally entitled to have the party removed to his native place, notwithstanding that he had spent a considerable portion of his life in England.

No. 2. Armagh Union.—7 November 1848.

John M'Coy.—The correspondence relative to the removal of John M'Coy from Newcastle-upon-Tyne to Armagh, in 1848, was printed in Parliamentary Paper, No. 159, of 1849.

No. 3. Armagh and Monaghan Unions.—26 April 1851.

Catherine M'Cabe, and four children were transmitted by the authorities in Edinburgh from the poorhouse there, under charge of a medical gentleman, the woman being insane for some time.

From the statement of the eldest girl, who is about 15 years of age, it appears that the father, a blacksmith, is still in employment in Scotland. The medical man, as directed in the warrant, brought them to Armagh, when it was ascertained that they belonged to the neighbourhood of Ballybay, in the county of Monaghan. The gentleman who accompanied them then took a car, and had them transferred to Monaghan, where they were accommodated for one night in the workhouse, and sent out of the house the following morning, and they arrived again in Armagh on foot, and were admitted provisionally; and the Board of Guardians apply to the Poor Law Commissioners in Dublin for directions how they should act, in order to relieve the union of what seems a most unfair charge.

On the 28th of April 1851, the Poor Law Commissioners in Ireland apply for further information, and recommend the Board of Guardians to put themselves in communication with the Board of Supervision of the Poor in Edinburgh, with the view of learning the circumstances under which the paupers were removed from Scotland, and of ascertaining whether they were properly removable.

On the 15th of May, the Board of Guardians transmit a communication from the Board of Supervision, Scotland, containing all the information that can be procured upon the subject.

Letter of the 9th of May 1851, from the Board of Supervision, Edinburgh, in which they enclose copy of a letter from Mr. A. Greig, one of the assistant inspectors of Edinburgh, with certified copy of the judicial declarations of Catherine M'Cabe and Mary M'Cabe, and state that, in their opinion, the removal of these paupers appears to have been effected legally, and in accordance with the statutory regulations.

Letter of Alexander Greig, dated 5th May 1851, stated that, on the 13th day of February preceding, Catherine M'Cabe had applied for relief for herself and four children, and relief was awarded to them; she represented that her husband had left Edinburgh in search of work, and it is stated that Elizabeth Reilly, with whom they had lodged, could tell nothing about him.

This letter and the declarations made by Mrs. M'Cabe, and Mary M'Cabe her eldest daughter, correspond with the statement made to the Armagh guardians.

On the 26th of May the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland inform the guardians that it appears to them that the Board of Guardians have not the power to relieve themselves from the support of those paupers, so long as they continue in a destitute state.

Appendix, No. 15.

No. 4. Athlone Union.—10 January 1850.

Patrick Reddington, his wife, and one child, were provisionally admitted to the Athlone workhouse.

On 31st January 1850 Patrick Reddington deposed, that he had resided in London for the last 30 years; had taken from Mr. Crain an entire house, about ten years since, No. 35, Upper Connel-street, St. George's-in-the-East, where he resided, until about four years ago, when he took two rooms in Charlotte-street, also in the parish of St. George's-in-the-East, where he lived about 18 months, and then removed to No. 18, Farmer's Folly, in the same parish, where he rented a room. He never received any parochial relief until the month of November preceding, when he, with his wife and child, was admitted into the workhouse of St. George's-in-the-East, about seven o'clock in the evening. On the following morning, Mr. Thomas Clarke, one of the officers of the workhouse, took him, his wife, and child to a steamer, lying at the Tower, which brought them to Dublin, where he got, from a person on board, who appeared to be in charge of the paupers, 10 *s.* to pay his expenses to the parish of Carne, in the Athlone Union, where he was born. He did not get any warrant, nor was he taken before any magistrate.

On the 2d of February 1850, the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland forward a copy of this deposition to the guardians, and state that it appears that every endeavour has been made to ascertain the particulars required by the Poor Law Board previous to instituting an appeal against the removal of Patrick Reddington, but the provisions of the 2d section of the Act 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117 do not appear to have been complied with in this case.

No further proceedings appear to have been taken.

No. 5. Athy Union, 3 July 1850.

Isabella Charles was removed from Edinburgh, with medical certificates that she was deranged, and required to be carefully watched. Her father and mother were both Scotch, the former being a land steward.

Mrs. Helen Charles, residing 8, Miland-court, states, that her daughter Isabella was born at Kildangan, county Kildare, in April 1809; resided there with her parents until she was one year old. Removed with them to Dublin. Four years after that, Castle Richard, county Waterford. Three years after that, to Mr. Smith Barry's, near Cove, Cork; then to Dublin, to Thomastown, to Ballingaret, to Dublin, with her parents, eight years. Then to Jolly's Land, Edinburgh. Two years after that, to 26, Richmond-street. Three years after that, to Gallowgate, Glasgow, one year; Broadclose, Glasgow, six months. Returned again to Edinburgh, with her mother, Milne's-court. Two months after that, at Mrs. M'Cabe's, Meal Market-stairs, one year. Then Boswell's-court some months, and in the Asylum, Morning-side, since February 1847. Mrs. Charles' son, James, will corroborate this statement. Edinburgh, 17 March 1849.

On 9th July 1850, the Poor Law Commissioners, Ireland, state, that they apprehend that unless it can be shown that Isabella Charles has gained a settlement in Scotland, the authorities were justified, under the provisions of the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83 in removing her to the place of her birth. They fear that from the medical statements as to the mental imbecility of Isabella Charles, the guardians cannot safely rely on any information received from her, and they therefore recommend the guardians to write to her mother, Mrs. Helen Charles, with a view to ascertain whether the pauper has acquired a settlement in Scotland, and in the meantime the guardians should continue to afford her support.

No further proceedings appear to have been taken in this case.

No. 6. Ballinasloe Union.—14 November 1849.

Michael Kelly, resided in England for the last 18 years, the last five working as a labourer in Lambeth; received relief three successive winters from the union authorities of Lambeth, and subsequently admitted into the workhouse, and from there transferred to Cork, and received 18 *d.* to proceed to his own county of Galway.

On the 22d December 1849 the Poor Law Commissioners acquaint the Board of Guardians that they, the guardians, are the parties who should make the necessary representation to the Poor Law Board, as to an appeal against the warrant authorizing the removal.

No. 7. Ballymena Union.—23 February 1854.

Margaret Boyd, a girl aged 17 years, applied for admission into the workhouse; was removed with her parents to Glasgow 13 years ago, where she remained till their deaths; has since earned her living by sewing; took the typhus fever, and was removed to the town's poorhouse. After her recovery was sent, much against her wish, to Belfast, from whence she walked to Ballymena, her native place.

On the 28th February 1854 the Poor Law Commissioners call the attention of the Board of Guardians to the law, that to acquire a settlement in any parish persons must have resided in such parish for five years continuously, and that the right of settlement is forfeited if, during

during any subsequent period of five years, he shall not have resided in such parish for one year. Appendix, No. 1

No. 8. Balrothery Union.—8 January 1851.

Margaret Hinchey, was sent to England in July last to join her husband, who has since deserted her. On applying to the guardians of Manchester Union, was forwarded by them to Ireland.

The Poor Law Commissioners, 14th January 1851, inform the guardians that they must admit Margaret Hinchey into the workhouse, if destitute, and requesting to know when she left Manchester, and also particulars as to the residence of the husband in Manchester. On the 22d of January 1851, the Board of Guardians reply, that Margaret Hinchey left Manchester with her three children on the 31st December last; was landed at Dublin on the 2d January; proceeded to Balbriggan, where she remained up to the 8th instant. William Hinchey (the husband) occupied a cellar in Primrose-street, Manchester, for two years previous to his desertion. Hinchey and his wife first left Balbriggan about two years ago. Margaret Hinchey was kept in the Manchester Union workhouse from the 28th to the 31st of December.

On the 30th January 1851 the Poor Law Commissioners inform the Board of Guardians that no illegality has been committed in removing this family from Manchester.

No. 9. Banbridge Union.—18 November 1850.

Letter from the inspector of the poor of Shotts, Lanarkshire, together with copy of a warrant from the sheriff for the removal of a pauper named *M'Keown* from Scotland, sent to the Poor Law Commissioners for information as to whether they, the guardians, are bound to relieve him, he having been resident in Scotland for the last 13 years.

On the 30th November 1850, the Poor Law Commissioners reply that under 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, a settlement is established in Scotland, by residence for a period of three years continuously, previously to the passing of that Act, which is dated 4th August 1845, or for five years after the passing of the Act. The guardians are recommended to inquire the grounds on which it is considered M'Keown had not a settlement.

No. 10. Bawnboy Union.—5 August 1851.

Catherine M'Manus and her three children applied for admittance into the workhouse. She resided in the Garradice electoral division of the Bawnboy Union, till her marriage in 1841; afterwards resided in the Carrickshannon Union, the native place of her husband, for 18 months; went thence to Chester-le-Street parish, Durham, where her three children were born; becoming destitute on the death of her husband, was sent back to her native union in Ireland. The Board of Guardians communicated with the Poor Law Commissioners respecting their liability to maintain them, and in the meantime temporary relief was given in one of the workhouses of the union.

On the 18th August 1851, the Poor Law Commissioners directed the Board of Guardians to afford relief in this case.

On the 19th August 1851, the Poor Law Inspector was directed to take the depositions of Catherine M'Manus, and to inform the Commissioners of the circumstances of the case.

4th September 1851. Colonel Clarke, Poor Law Inspector, reported that Catherine M'Manus had voluntarily taken her discharge from the Mohill Union workhouse shortly before his arrival.

No further inquiry has been made in this case.

No. 11. Belfast Union.—24 February 1846; 31 March 1846; 14 April 1846.

Mary M'Mullan, aged 17 years, and her two brothers, aged four and two years respectively, sent from Scotland. The father, Hugh M'Mullan, a girth weaver, is a native of Antrim; left Belfast for Scotland eight years ago; applied to the parish officer to send himself and children to Belfast; remained one week in Belfast, when he returned to Scotland, leaving the children with his father, promising to send for them in two or three weeks; they have not heard from him for five weeks, except from a third party, that he was working at Brigtown. The children becoming destitute, were received into the workhouse for two days. They were sent back to Scotland by the master of the workhouse, but were unsuccessful in finding their father; and on the 13th of July, Mr. M'Lernon paid their passage back to Belfast, where they have been received into the workhouse. Mary M'Mullan was born at Lisburn, her two brothers at Brigtown, Scotland.

On the 27th July 1846, the Poor Law Commissioners communicate with the Board of Guardians, stating that the children were, in the first instance, correctly sent with their father to Belfast; but that an irregularity was afterwards committed in sending them from Belfast to Glasgow.

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No. 12. Belfast Union.—25 September 1846.

Mary Bready states, that she is a native of Cavan, proceeded to Scotland in May 1830; resided at Edinburgh for three years; went thence to Glasgow, where she has resided for the last 12 years, supporting herself by sewing and charing; falling into ill health she made an application for money to return to Ireland. She received no money, but was sent to Belfast, accompanied by an officer named Dick, who supplied her with a breakfast on arriving at Belfast; on applying at the workhouse for means to take her to Cavan, was told that all that could be done was, if destitute, she could be relieved in the workhouse. Was admitted into the workhouse on the following Saturday, on a warden's provisional order; received 5*s.* from the parish last Christmas, being sick, and has several times received 2*s.* She was entitled to this relief from a five years' industrial residence.

On the 1st October 1846, the Poor Law Commissioners communicated with the Board of Supervision of Scotland on this matter, and on the 9th of the same month received a reply enclosing a statement of the inspector of the poor of the Barony Parish, Glasgow, from which it appeared that Mary Brady had not at the time of her application for parochial relief, a settlement in any parish in Scotland, and that she was therefore legally removable to Ireland.

On the 12th October 1846, the said letter from the Board of Supervision, with the enclosure, was communicated by the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians of the Belfast Union.

On the 21st October, the Board of Guardians enclosed to the Poor Law Commissioners a letter received by them from Mr. Donald Ross, of Glasgow, on the subject of the ill-usage of Mary Bready, stating that she had acquired a settlement in the City Parish of Glasgow, and asking for further particulars of the case; they, the Board, requested the Poor Law Commissioners to supply Mr. Ross with the required information.

On the 31st October 1846, the Poor Law Commissioners in reply stated that they had given Mr. Ross all the information in their power.

No. 13. Belfast Union.—8 March 1848.

Michael M'Donnell stated, that he had lived constantly in Edinburgh for the last 11 years; for part of that time had rented a house; for nine years had supported himself by his own industry. First received parochial relief two years ago, on account of severe illness; lately obtained an order for temporary relief; was taken by the relieving officer before the magistrates, who granted a removal order; objected to such removal, as being a householder. Wishes to return to Edinburgh.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 25th March 1848, to the effect that no appeal lies from an order of removal from a Scotch parish or combination to Ireland.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Supervision, Edinburgh, dated 25th March 1848, directing an inquiry into the circumstances of the case. Letter in reply, 8th April 1848, enclosing documents (as below), and stating that the admissions made by Michael M'Donnell, at Edinburgh, are inconsistent with his deposition (as above). Copy letter from the Inspector of Poor, Edinburgh, to the Board of Supervision, dated 30th March 1848; and judicial copies of the proceedings which took place before the justices on 4th March 1848, showing that the warrant for removal was granted on the admission of M'Donnell, that he had not acquired a settlement in any parish in Scotland. Further letter from the inspector of poor, 7 April 1848, explaining that M'Donnell had not resided for five years in any parish in Edinburgh. Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, 15th April 1848, forwarding copies of the communication and documents received from the Board of Supervision.

No. 14. Belfast Union.—8 March 1848.

Mary Berry deposed, that for the last five years she had kept a lodging-house in Edinburgh, received parochial relief lately, shortly after her husband's death; was subsequently removed to Belfast against her will; had never been a beggar; was not allowed any opportunity of proving that she had gained a settlement in Edinburgh.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 25th March 1848, to the effect that no appeal lies from an order of removal from a Scotch parish or combination to Ireland.

Letter from the Commissioners, to the Board of Supervision, Edinburgh, dated 25th March, directing an inquiry into the circumstances of the case. Letter in reply, 8th April 1848, enclosing documents (as below), stating that the admissions made by Mary Berry, at Edinburgh, are inconsistent with her deposition (as above). Copy letter from the inspector of poor, Edinburgh, to the Board of Supervision, 30th March 1850, and judicial copies of the proceedings which took place before the justices, 6th March 1848, showing that the order for removal was granted on the admission of Mary Berry, that she had not acquired a settlement in Scotland. Further letter from the inspector of poor, 7th April 1848, explaining that Mary Berry had resided for short periods only in any parish in Edinburgh. Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, 15th April 1848, forwarding copies of the communication and enclosures received from the Board of Supervision.

No. 15. Belfast Union.—14 February 1849.

Mary Jane Cairns. The Board of Guardians state that the woman Cairns had never been relieved in the Belfast workhouse, and had never applied for relief. Mr. Senior, Poor Law Inspector, reports to the Commissioners, 20th February 1849, that Mary Jane Cairns, or Kearns, became the mother of an illegitimate child at Glasgow; applied for relief to the parochial authorities there; was forwarded by them, against her will, to Belfast, with an infant 11 weeks old; applied, on landing, to the Charitable Society, who, at her urgent request, sent her back to Glasgow, where, she stated, she had a husband living; passed one night at a building occupied by the society, which was in proper repair and condition; never applied for relief to the Belfast workhouse officers. The master of the workhouse deposed, 12th February 1849, that the woman Cairns never applied thereat, and that there are proper regulations as to food, &c. and the care of paupers in the casual ward. Mr. Holden and William Skillen, of the Belfast Relief Society, deposed, 12th February 1849, that the woman Cairns applied to be sent back to Glasgow, and stated that she had never been in the Belfast workhouse. The relieving officer of the south district, Belfast Union, deposed, 12th February 1849, that no application had been made to him by any person of the name of Jane Cairns.

The Board of Supervision, Scotland, state, 8 March 1849, that the woman Cairns was legally removed from Glasgow to Belfast; should not have been sent to Derry instead, as stated by the Poor Law Commissioners, 22d February 1849, and is liable to prosecution criminally for her return to Scotland and her chargeability there. Letter from the chairman of the parochial Board, Glasgow, to the Home Secretary, 12th March 1849, praying for an inquiry into this case, and enclosing depositions, &c. Deposition of the inspector of the vagrant poor, Glasgow, 9th February 1849, that the woman Cairns had been sent back to Glasgow, and her fare by steam-boat paid by the Belfast Union. Deposition on the same day, at Glasgow, by Jane Cairns, who stated that on 2d February 1849, she was brought with her child before the magistrates at Glasgow,; admitted she had been receiving relief for 10 weeks; that she was a native of Ireland; came thence to Scotland about four years ago; received her warrant of removal, and was duly forwarded to Belfast; was put into a room of the poor-house there, and locked up; the said room was dirty, the windows broken, and no fire; remained there with her child for 12 hours, and received no food during that time; on leaving was supplied with a bit of bread; was taken on board the steamer for Glasgow, and received no provisions during the passage across; on landing at Glasgow, proceeded to the Town's Hospital, stated the foregoing circumstances, and was afforded temporary relief.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Home Secretary, 20th March 1849, referring to the inquiry to be made by Mr. Senior. Further letter from the same to the same, 31st March 1849, referring to the examination of Mr. Senior before a Committee of the House on the Irish Poor Law, as showing the benevolent and successful working of the Charitable Society at Belfast (implicated in the present case), and referring also to Mr. Senior's report of 20th February 1849.

No. 16. Belfast Union.

Mary Campbell. The Board of Guardians direct, 16th May 1849, that the Liverpool authorities be informed that the woman Mary Campbell and family were not properly removed; that Mr. Rushton, of Liverpool, be asked whether they were removed contrary to his opinion, and whether he refused to sign the removal order.

No. 17. Belfast Union.

Catherine M'Ewen deposed, 8 December 1850, that she was the wife of John M'Ewen, who deserted her in Haddington, Scotland, about two years ago. They had lived there for eight years. Had never received any parochial relief. Her husband was born near Haddington. She is a native of Belfast. Her two children have been relieved by the parish. Could not get a copy of the order of removal to Ireland. Was removed by force. Was not examined by a medical man before removal. Believes there was no order for her removal.

The Poor Law Commissioners write to the Board of Supervision, Scotland, 11th December 1850, requesting to be informed of the legal grounds for the removal of this woman and her children. The Board of Supervision reply, 20th December 1850, and forward a copy of statement made by the inspector of poor at Haddington, along with a copy of the petition and order of removal.

The inspector of poor, Haddington, deposed that Catherine M'Ewen and John M'Ewen were both born in Ireland; that after being in employment in Scotland, he had deserted her about the year 1848; that since then, she and her two children had frequently received parish relief at Haddington; that the parochial Board ordered the family to be sent to Ireland, it appearing that she had not acquired and retained any settlement in Scotland; that shortly after the removal had been carried out, she returned again to Scotland, bringing with her, besides her two younger children, her eldest son (about 14 years old), who had been receiving parochial relief in Ireland; that on reaching Glasgow she applied for and obtained relief, stating, 15th April 1850, that she had left Haddington for Glasgow in search of her son, who had run away, and that she wished to be sent back to Haddington, being quite destitute. For this false statement she was not proceeded against, and shortly after-

Appendix, No. 15.

wards reached Haddington with her three children; applied for and obtained relief; was again removed to Ireland, a fresh medical certificate having been first obtained. No force was used to effect such removal; she was well aware of the existence of the warrant; did not ask for a copy of it; repeatedly stated that her husband was a native of Ireland.

The petition of the inspector of poor, Haddington, for the removal order, after reciting the provisions of the Act 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, s. 77, &c., states that Catherine M'Ewen, a native of Ireland, was receiving parochial relief at Haddington, and had with her children become chargeable to the said parish, though she had not acquired and retained a settlement in Scotland.

The deposition of Catherine M'Ewen, 16th March 1850, states that she has no settlement in Scotland, and was born in Ireland. The order for her removal, and for that of her two children, is made out on 16th March 1850. This warrant is held as sufficient by the magistrate for her second removal, 28th November 1850.

On 24th December 1850, the Poor Law Commissioners write to the Board of Guardians, Belfast, and state Catherine M'Ewen and her two children were legally removed from Scotland.

No. 18. Belfast Union.—19 March 1851.

John Stewart. The clerk to the Board of Guardians is directed to forward to the Poor Law Commissioners a copy of the order for the removal of an infant of 15 months, named John Stewart, from Stranraer, where his parents are confined in gaol. The clerk accordingly, on the 24th of March 1851, encloses in a communication to the Commissioners, the following documents, viz., a petition and complaint of the inspector of the poor of the parish of Stranraer, which after reciting the Act of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, s. 77, relating to poor relief in Scotland, and 10 & 11 Vict. c. 33, s. 2, relating to the removal of destitute poor from England and Scotland, states that James Stewart, now or lately in the prison of Stranraer, was born in Donaghadee, Ireland, is receiving parochial relief, and has not acquired a settlement in Scotland; and being chargeable to the parish, it has become necessary to remove him to Ireland; also reciting section 4 of the 10 & 11 Vict., c. 33, prays that the necessary order for his removal may be granted, together with a certificate that he is in a fit state of health to be removed. Also deposition of James Stewart and Margaret Davidson, or Stewart, his wife, stating that they are the parents of the said John Stewart, that he was born in Donaghadee, in the county of Down, Ireland, removed to Scotland 10 months ago, and that they are unable to support the child in consequence of being prisoners in the gaol. Also the order of removal. The Poor Law Commissioners, on the 2d of April, communicate to the Board of Guardians, that they (the Commissioners), have forwarded copy letter and order of removal to the Board of Supervision, at Edinburgh, and stating that the Board of Guardians questioned the legality of the removal.

On the 12th April the Poor Law Commissioners communicate to the Board of Guardians a letter from the Board of Supervision, dated 5th April 1851, stating opinion that the removal was not illegal. On application by the Board of Guardians, the Commissioners forwarded, on the 30th April, a communication from the Board of Supervision, dated 19th April 1851, stating that the removal of John Stewart was not illegal, but a rigorous and injudicious exercise of the law.

Declaration of William Todd, Master of Belfast Union, made 10th May 1851 states, that said John Stewart was received into the workhouse on the 14th February 1851, on an order of the relieving officer, and remained till the 4th of April, when he was removed by his mother, on producing a note of her identity from Mr. Watt, the inspector.

Extract from the Minutes of the Board of Guardians, dated 14th May 1851, citing the above case in a letter to be addressed to Lord Monteagle and Mr. Tennent, M. P., as showing the evils of the present power of removal of the destitute Irish poor from Scotland.

No. 19. Belfast Union.

Thomas Dyer. Extract from Minutes of the Board of Guardians, 18th June 1851, that Dyer's removal to Belfast, though of itself legal, was irregularly and illegally carried out, and was a great hardship, inasmuch as his family remain in Glasgow without any means of support; his wife, moreover, being as yet ignorant of what has become of her husband.

A deputation to the Home Secretary is appointed by the Board, and enter into the evils of the system of poor removal from England and Scotland to Ireland.

No. 20. Belfast Union.

Mary M'Laughlin, deposed, 31st March 1852, that she was a native of Leitrim; was, when an infant, taken by her father to Edinburgh, and by him supported till his death, about three years ago; had never applied for, nor received parochial relief. After his death, went into service; in November 1851 afflicted with syphilis; was admitted into the infirmary in Edinburgh; remained there dangerously bad for about five weeks; was then taken to the workhouse, and having been taken before a magistrate, was subsequently sent to Glasgow, and thence to Belfast; was not treated for her disease while in the Edinburgh workhouse, nor until she arrived in Belfast, and was consequently under treatment subsequently for six weeks. When in Edinburgh was not allowed to leave the workhouse to get some clothes from the place where she had lodged.

Order

Order for the removal to Ireland of Mary M'Laughlin, 7th January 1852, as a native of that country, and chargeable to Edinburgh. Appendix, No. 15

Deposition of medical officer of Belfast workhouse, 31st March 1851, that Mary M'Laughlin (aged 17) was in an improper, though not in a dangerous state, to be removed from Scotland to Ireland. She continued under treatment for 19 days, and was discharged cured.

Letter from Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, 17th April 1852, promising an inquiry into this case. Letter from same to the Board of Supervision, Scotland, 17th April 1852, enclosing copies of foregoing documents, and requesting explanation. Letter in reply, 24th April 1852, enclosing copy of medical certificate, 7th January 1852, that the health of Mary M'Laughlin was such as to admit of her removal.

No. 21. Boyle and Sligo Unions.—11 February 1851.

Ann Smith and her three Children. These paupers and five others (Callaghan by name, of ages from 3 to 12 years old) were received into the Boyle Union, to which place they originally belonged, from that of Sligo, to which latter place they had been sent from England.

The Board of Guardians of Boyle Union (through their clerk) write to the Poor Law Commissioners on 12th February 1851, stating particulars, and showing that Anne Smith and her husband were resident at Morpeth, Northumberland, for the last six years; that she was subsequently left by him at Liverpool; that she applied to the parish authorities for assistance to return to Morpeth; that against her will she and her children were sent to Sligo, and there received into the workhouse; that she is a native of Boyle district. The Board conclude that these nine paupers were not legally transferred from the Sligo Union, and request the sanction of the Commissioners to re-transmit them thither.

The Poor Law Commissioners, in reply, 17th February 1851, promise an inquiry into the circumstances, and on same day write to the Board of Guardians of the Sligo Union for an explanation, referring to a circular as to the illegality of removing paupers from one union to another.

On 18th February the guardians of the Sligo Union reply, that the nine paupers in question landed from Liverpool in a destitute state; were provisionally admitted into the workhouse; stated next day that they belonged to Boyle, and wished to go there; were discharged from the workhouse; were subsequently assisted by private subscription in reaching Boyle; were not removed thither by an order of the Sligo Board.

On 24th March the Commissioners state the above circumstances to the Boyle Guardians, and add that as the removal was not the act of the Sligo Board, they (the Commissioners) are precluded from interfering in the matter.

Extract from minutes of the Board of Guardians of Boyle Union, 25th March 1851, giving further particulars, and showing that an official letter accompanied the paupers from Sligo. This letter was from the master of the workhouse, 8th February 1851, and stated that he sent the paupers by order of the Board of Guardians.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians of Sligo Union, 1st April 1851, forwarding the further statements of the Boyle Guardians, and requesting full particulars.

Letter from same to C. G. Otway, poor-law inspector, 1st April 1851, directing an inquiry.

Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians of Boyle Union, 8th April 1851, explaining that the master of the workhouse had no authority for his statement.

Report of Mr. Otway on the entire case, 17th April 1851, to the effect the Sligo Board were not responsible for the removal.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians of Boyle Union, 26th April 1851, recapitulating the result of further inquiries, and confirming their former view of the case.

No. 22. Boyle and Sligo Unions.

John Callaghan and four Others. For particulars as to the removal of these paupers from the Sligo to the Boyle Union, *see* the preceding case of Anne Smith and her three children, No. 21.

No. 23. Carlow Union.—26 February 1852.

Margaret Roche states, that she has resided in the town of Ormskirk, Lancashire, for an uninterrupted period of 17 years; after being in the workhouse there for about a fortnight, was, on the following Monday, discharged from the workhouse and sent to Carlow, her native place. She is 67 years old, and blind.

On the 4th March 1852 the Poor Law Commissioners request the poor law inspector, Mr. Crawford, to make inquiries into this case.

The poor law inspector, in his reply of the 8th March 1852, states that Margaret Roche is a native of Graigue, in Queen's County and Carlow Union, which place she left about 16 years ago, and proceeded to Ormskirk, Lancashire, where she resided in several houses in the parish of Ormskirk until about 18 months ago, when, in consequence of being blind and unable to work, she went to reside with her daughter at Scathill, about a mile from Ormskirk, in the parish of Biggestaff, until her admission into Ormskirk workhouse; and stating that her removal was not illegal.

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Copy deposition of Margaret Roche, enclosed, made 6th March 1852, in corroboration of this statement.

On the 10th March 1852 the Poor Law Commissioners inform the Board that no illegality has been committed in this case, as Margaret Roche had not acquired a settlement in Ormskirk parish; and the fact of changing her parish prevents her case coming under the provisions of the first section of the Act of 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66, which only prohibits removal in the case of continuous residence for five years previous to the application for a warrant of removal.

No. 24. Carrickmacross Union.—5 October 1852.

Catherine Otterson, who, with her three children, was admitted into the workhouse, states, she was born in the townland of Lattylannigan, in this union; when about the age of 12 years went to Glasgow, where she remained eight years; thence to Edinburgh, seven years, when she removed to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where she has resided for the last eight years, until her removal by the authorities. Which statement was communicated by the Board of Guardians to the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland; who, on the 22d October 1852, request to know whether said Catherine Otterson resided for five years continuously in the parish from which she was removed; in answer to which, the Board of Guardians on the 26th October 1852 enclose to the Commissioners a declaration made by said Catherine Otterson that she had resided in the parish of All Saints, in England, for an uninterrupted period of seven years, previous to her compulsory removal, and hath been admitted a pauper into the workhouse of this union.

On the 1st November 1852, the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland request to know whether said Catherine Otterson had received relief during the five years previous to her removal from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to which the Board of Guardians reply on the 3d Nov. 1852, that Catherine Otterson states she had received out-door relief at intervals during the last two years, and in the workhouse for one month previous to her removal to Ireland.

On the 7th of December 1852, the Board of Guardians request the opinion of the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland on this case; to which they reply, that they, the Commissioners, are in communication with the Poor Law Board in England, on the subject. On the 17th January 1853, the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland communicate to the Board of Guardians a letter from the Poor Law Commissioners, London, enclosing a letter from the clerk of Newcastle-upon-Tyne Union, stating his inability to ascertain the length of time Catherine Otterson had resided in the parish of All Saints. The Commissioners (Ireland), are of opinion, that under the circumstances, there is a *primâ facie* case for an appeal against her removal under the 1st sec. 9 & 10 Vict., c. 66.

On the 18th January 1853, the Board of Guardians state that Catherine Otterson and family left the workhouse a month ago, and they do not see any necessity for proceeding in the matter at present.

In a letter from the Poor Law Board, London, to the Poor Law Commissioners, Ireland, dated 20th January 1853, they regret that a letter from the clerk of the Union of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, dated 8th December 1852, (stating that Catherine Otterson in the year 1847, under the name of Catherine Hogan, widow, was chargeable to the parish of All Saints for 34 weeks, receiving out-door relief; that she afterwards married a Samuel Otterson, who deserted her, and went to America; that between August 1849, and September last, she was chargeable to the same parish for 103 weeks, being a total of 137 weeks; in consequence of which her residence was not sufficient to preclude her removal), was omitted to be sent with the previous correspondence; which appears to the Board to show that the pauper in question was not exempt from removal by reason of the 9 & 10 Vict., c. 66. On the 14th February 1853, the Poor Law Commissioners communicate this letter with the enclosure to the Board of Guardians.

On the 18th February 1853, the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland state to the Poor Law Board, London, that in consequence of said Catherine Otterson and her children having left the workhouse a month since, the guardians did not see any necessity for proceeding further in the case.

No. 25. Cashel Union.

Stephen Power. Letter from the temporary poor-law inspector to the Poor Law Commissioners, 10th February 1848, requesting to be informed whether it is in the power of the Board of Guardians to refuse relief to a man resident in the union for 18 years (as Power had been, in the Bradford Union), and to send him back to the parish in which he was born. Power stated, that he had resided for 18 years in the Bradford Union; had acquired a settlement there; also that the Board of Guardians consider that no length of residence entitles a person to any claim upon them, and that they threaten to send him from their workhouse to the Cashel Union, where he was born; and also the other Irish in the workhouse. Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the temporary poor-law inspector, 14th February 1848, stating that they have laid the matter before the English Poor Law Board. The Poor Law Board, London, write to the Board of Guardians of the Bradford Union, and point out to them that destitute Irish are entitled to relief in the same manner as other destitute persons, and that the removal to Ireland of persons, irrespective of five years' industrial residence, would be illegal.

No. 26. Cashel Union.

Margaret Gleeson, deposed, 18th September 1851, that she formerly lived in Cashel; went to London with her husband about 1847; obtained admission, together with him, into the Whitechapel Union in January 1849; her husband died in August 1849; she remained in the poorhouse till lately, when she was sent thence to Cashel.

The Poor Law Commissioners inform the Board of Guardians, 24th September 1851, that Margaret Gleeson, not having resided for five years continuously in the parish of Whitechapel, was legally removable therefrom.

No. 27. Celbridge Union.

John Hogan, deposed, 21st December 1853, that he was born in the parish of Clonrush, in the county of Clare. About a year ago went to Staleybridge, and got employment there; was lately obliged to apply for relief, and was admitted into the workhouse. Was subsequently removed to Liverpool on way to Ireland; had said that he was born in Clare; was given sixpence and some bread and cheese when being embarked at Liverpool. Was landed at Dublin, though he had not consented to be sent thither. Was unable to reach Clare, and obliged to apply for relief at Celbridge workhouse, where he was admitted on 20th December 1853.

On 24th December 1853, the Poor Law Commissioners communicate with the Poor Law Board, London, who reply on 27th January 1854, and enclose a copy of letter from the Board of Guardians of Ashton-under-Lyne, dated 13th January 1854, which, among other explanations, states that Hogan received 1*s.* 6*d.* at Liverpool, besides provisions; that he knew he was being sent to Dublin, and did not object thereto; that he had not expressed a wish to be sent to any particular port in Ireland.

The Poor Law Commissioners write to the Celbridge Board of Guardians, 14th February 1854, and state that the removal of Hogan to Dublin was illegal, he not having consented to be sent thither, and not having received a sum at all sufficient to enable him to reach his native place.

No. 28. Clogheen Union.—17 December 1850.

Margaret M'Carthy applied for admission for herself and two children. Was born in the union; had for the last 30 years lived in London, where she married an Englishman, who died in 1839; had, about two years ago, been relieved for a period of five months in the Lambeth workhouse, in the parish wherein her husband had a settlement; had recently again received relief therein, but was, with her children, removed to Ireland, though she had remonstrated against the removal of the latter, and claimed their right of settlement. Was admitted into the Clogheen workhouse, together with her children.

On 7th January 1851, deposed to certain particulars which tally with the above statement, and which show that her elder child could have been received into service in London, but was compelled to leave England with deponent.

On 11th January 1831, the Poor Law Commissioners write to the Clogheen Board of Guardians, enclose a copy of the depositions, and state that they are not aware on what ground it can be contended that Margaret M'Carthy was irremovable from the parish of Lambeth. They also explain the removal of the children by the third section of the Act 9 & 10 Vict. c. 61.

The Board of Guardians, in reply, 14th January 1851, state they consider Margaret M'Carthy irremovable, as having resided for 30 years continuously, and the children irremovable, through their father having been born in the Lambeth parish.

On 27th January the Commissioners reply, that in order to establish irremovability, the party must have resided for a period of five years next before the application for the warrant of removal in any parish, &c. maintaining its own poor, and that Margaret M'Carthy has not established such residence. Also, that as the children are under 16 years of age, their removability depends upon that of the mother.

On 28th January 1851, Margaret M'Carthy further deposed that she had resided in Lambeth parish for 30 years continuously, with the exception of two short periods when she was in the Battle-bridge fever hospital, that on being brought before the magistrate of the Lambeth police court, it was stated by him that he had no power to order her removal.

On 3d February 1851, the Poor Law Commissioners inform the Board of Guardians that if they wish to appeal against the removal, they must formally address the Poor Law Board in London, in accordance with the 6th section of the Act 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, with regard to security for the payment of all costs which may be incurred in the appeal.

The Board of Guardians on 4th Febuary 1851, request the Poor Law Board to take immediate steps to prosecute an appeal. They further write on 11th March, and regret that the shortness of the time defined for prosecuting the appeal precludes the possibility of their redressing the grievance inflicted by the illegality and injustice of the warrant for removal.

No. 29. Clonakilty Union.—17 December 1852.

Mary Jones was admitted with her three children into the workhouse; had lived in England about 20 years; was married about 11 years ago to Thomas Edward Richard Jones, an Englishman, with whom she lived in the parish of Shoreditch till about 14 months since,

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since, when he deserted her; about 12 months since, became an inmate of the Shoreditch poorhouse, whence she was sent to Clonakilty.

On 23d December 1852, the Poor Law Commissioners promise an inquiry into the circumstances, and on same day write to the Poor Law Board, London, on the subject; who reply on 21st January 1853, and enclose an explanation received by them from the Trustees of the Poor of St. Leonard, Shoreditch; which explanation, dated 15th January 1853, showing that Mary Jones, during the latter years of her residence in England, had lived in many places both in London and the country; that diligent but unsuccessful inquiries were made to find the place of settlement of her husband, and that in order to further such inquiries the order for her removal was allowed to stand over for several weeks.

On 27th January 1853, the Poor Law Commissioners write to the Board of Guardians, recapitulating the circumstances of the case, and informing them that they cannot successfully appeal against the removal, inasmuch as Mary Jones had not resided in St. Leonard's, Shoredith, for five years next before the application for the warrant of removal, as provided by the 1st section of 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66.

No. 30. Clonakilty Union.

Jeremiah M'Carthy, his wife, and two children, were admitted into this union on the 24th of December 1852, the Board of Guardians at the same time considering the claim upon them unjust, as he (M'Carthy) had been resident in England for 12 years, where one of his children was born.

No. 31. Cootehill Union.

William Sherry, his wife, and four children, were transmitted to this union on the 2d February 1850. He left Cootehill 22 years ago; resided in Scotland for six years; went thence to Hexham, Northumberland, where he lived for two years and five months; afterwards resided in the parish of Corsenside, in the same county, 8 ½ years, and the remainder of the time in Cumberland; was sent to Cootehill Union by the Hexham parish. The guardians request the assistance of the Poor Law Commissioners for removing this family to Corsenside.

The Poor Law Commissioners on the 5th February 1850 inquire whether this family is receiving relief in the Cootehill workhouse. On the 8th of the same month the Board of Guardians reply that William Sherry is not in receipt of relief.

No. 32. Cork Union.—9 March 1849.

Thomas Parker and Family. Minute of the Board of Guardians, calling the attention of the Poor Law Commissioners to the case of Thomas Parker and his family, who have been lately sent from Torquay.

On the 15th May 1849, the Poor Law Commissioners request a more minute statement of the particulars of this case.

No. 33. Cork Union.—31 January 1849.

Honora Collins (who, with her four children, were admitted on the 29th January) states, that she lived 15 years in London with her husband, a labourer; he being out of work, she and her children went into St. Saviour's workhouse, Borough, from whence, after six days, she was forcibly removed to Cork, without the knowledge of her husband, to whom she is most anxious to return. All her children were born in England. Which statement is communicated to the Poor Law Commissioners (Ireland), who on the 20th February 1849 submit it to the Poor Law Board, London, and requesting that the facts of the case may be ascertained and communicated to them.

On the 12th April 1849 the Poor Law Board, London, write to the Poor Law Commissioners, inclosing their correspondence with the Guardians of St. Saviour's Union, from which it appears, that on the 28th February 1849 they, the Commissioners, request the guardians of St. Saviour's to furnish them with any observations they, the guardians, may desire to make on the case, to which the guardians reply on the 2d March 1849, enclosing extract from their minutes, stating that Honora Collins and her children had been regularly removed under an order obtained from the magistrates in the usual manner, and that her statement of being forcily put on board the steamer is at variance with the fact. The guardians at the same time state, that the woman's husband was in prison for felony at the time of her removal. On the 14th March 1849 the Poor Law Board apply to the guardians for a copy of the order of removal, which is supplied by the guardians of St. Saviour's, together with the examination of Honora Collins, taken before the magistrates, in which she states she was born in Dunmanway, Ireland, which place she left about 16 years ago, and has no settlement in England, and is at the time of her examination chargeable to the parish of St. Saviour, Surrey, and that she has four children, neither of whom have a settlement in England; and that on the 12th April 1849 the Poor Law Board wrote to the guardians of St. Saviour's, expressing their doubts whether the removal was legal under the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, and stating that such a proceeding, even if legal, was harsh in the present case.

On the 24th April 1849 the Poor Law Commissioners, Ireland, communicated the above facts to the Board of Guardians of the Cork Union.

No. 34. Cork Union.—28 January 1850.

Michael Deasey. Letter from the Board of Guardians to the Poor Law Commissioners, Ireland, communicating the fact of Michael Deasey being sent from Woolwich to Cork, in October last, after residing in the parish of St. James, London, for 21 years, and requesting the Commissioners to take the necessary steps in the matter, to which the Commissioners reply, on the 31st January 1850, by referring the guardians to the 6th section of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 66, as to the power of appeal against a warrant of removal.

No. 35. Cork Union.—6 May 1851.

Mary Casey. Letter from the Board of Guardians to the Poor Law Commissioners, calling their attention to the case of Mary Casey, who was lately landed at Cork, from Bristol, in a state of great destitution, and asking the direction of the Commissioners as to the steps to be taken therein; the particulars of the case are thereupon forwarded by the Poor Law Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, on the 8th May 1851.

On the 29th of May 1851, the Poor Law Board forward to the Poor Law Commissioners a copy of a communication from the Board of Guardians of Cardiff Union, dated 24th May 1851, from which it appears that Mary Casey was received into the workhouse in September 1842, being then about nine years old, having been found destitute in the town of Cardiff (supposed to be the daughter of Irish vagrants); in June 1848, she went to service in the parish of Routh, where she stayed 12 weeks, when she was again received into the workhouse, where she remained four weeks, when she entered service in the parish of Rudry, and remained there for about 12 months, since which time she has been leading an abandoned life in Cardiff and Bristol, and has since received occasional medical relief; was last admitted, on 5th April 1851, when she was induced by a woman named Ryan, with whom she slept, to desire to be sent to Ireland.

On the 2d June 1851, the Poor Law Commissioners communicate to the Board of Guardians the letter from the Guardians of Cardiff Union.

No. 36. Cork Union.—1 November 1851.

John Shea, a boy 14 years of age, a native of Berehaven, Cork, admitted into the workhouse on 26th October, states that he was discharged from the St. Pancras workhouse on the 22d October, was sent thence to Cork, a distance of 60 miles from Berehaven, without any money to defray his expenses thither. In answer to a letter from the Board of Guardians of Cork Union to the Guardians of St. Pancras, on the 8th November 1851, refer the guardians to Mr. Baker, the contractor for the conveyance of paupers to Ireland, &c. for an explanation as to the apparent neglect in this case.

On the 24th November 1851, the Poor Law Commissioners communicate to Sir George Grey particulars of the correspondence, and on the 15th January 1852, Sir George Grey transmits to the Commissioners a copy of a report from the Poor Law Board, stating that under the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, s. 4, it is only compulsory that Irish paupers shall be landed at the port nearest to the place where such paupers were born, or where they have resided; also copy letter from Mr. Charles Hibbard, settlement agent and overseer of St. Pancras, to the Poor Law Board, stating that the contract for the removal of destitute persons to Ireland, is entered into by Mr. Baker with the justices of the peace, subject to certain regulations.

On the 27th January 1852, the Poor Law Commissioners inform the Board of Guardians that according to the report of the Poor Law Board no illegality has been committed by the St. Pancras Union in this case.

No. 37. Cork Union.

John M'Carthy, an infant, was removed with his mother, Catherine M'Carthy, from the Whitechapel Union to Cork on 3d March 1852, and died on the passage. On arriving at Cork an inquest was held on 23d March 1852, and a verdict given, "that John M'Carthy, aged one month or thereabouts, came to his death through want of nourishment, but under what circumstances such want of nourishment took place there is no evidence to prove." The sub-inspector at Cork reports the foregoing facts, and that the child died on the 20th March, and states that the mother of the child is a native of Bantry, Ireland, from whence she went to London some time back with a man named M'Carthy, by whom, without being married, she had the child in question. Which report is, on the 26th March 1852, sent by the Poor Law Commissioners to Captain Hubard, the Poor Law Inspector, with a request that he do inquire into the circumstances of the case; and on the 29th March 1852 he (Captain Hubard) reports that he has been unable to trace the mother of the deceased child.

On the 3d April 1852 the Poor Law Commissioners communicate to the Poor Law Board, London, the constabulary report and the report of the Poor Law Inspector; and in reply, the Poor Law Board, on the 28th April 1852, inform the Poor Law Commissioners that they have made inquiry of the guardians of the Whitechapel Union respecting this case, and forwarding copy letter and sundry reports received from them; from which it appears that Catherine M'Carthy was admitted into the Whitechapel workhouse in labour, on 13th February 1852, and was delivered of the child in question on the same evening. She

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remained in the workhouse till the 3d March 1852; she then lived in New-court in the Stepney Union for a short time, and afterwards resided in Hampshire-court, Whitechapel-road; was again admitted, with her child, into the Whitechapel workhouse on the 10th March 1852; that on her consenting to be passed to Ireland an order was made to that effect on the 16th March 1852; that on being admitted on the 10th March the child was in a very dirty state, and appeared to be much neglected by its mother, but did not require medical assistance; that they were passed to Ireland on the 18th March 1852; and that the woman received proper attention and food on the passage.

No. 38. Cork Union.—29 June 1853.

Margaret Haggarty, a child, seven years of age, having been sent from London as a pauper, the Board of Guardians forward to the Commissioners the warrant issued in London, and declaration of Bernard Curley, the person in whose custody said Margaret Haggarty was brought to the house, and request to know whether she can be sent back to London, her father being there. The declaration states that Bernard Curley received the warrant directing him to convey Margaret Haggarty to the city of Cork from Mr. Frost, High-street, Wapping. The order of removal sets out, that Margaret Haggarty, a person born in Ireland, has become chargeable to the parish of St. James, Clerkenwell, and requiring the constable of the parish to convey said Margaret Haggarty to Ireland, in accordance with the regulations of the justices of Middlesex, in pursuance of an Act of 9 Vict.

James Bennett deposes, that to the best of his knowledge and belief, said Margaret Haggarty was born in the county of Cork, Ireland, which she left about a year ago; that she has no settlement in England, and is chargeable to the parish of St. James, Clerkenwell.

The foregoing documents are, on the 25th July, forwarded by the Poor Law Commissioners to the Poor Law Inspector, requesting him to make inquiries of the child, and, if possible of Bernard Curley, and report their statements; who on the 1st August 1853 reports that Bernard Curley is not to be found, it being understood that he returned to London immediately after making the declaration referred to; that from the child's statement, he has no doubt she is a native of Clonakilty; that she was deserted by her father in London, and was sent from thence to Cork, pursuant to the English law of removal.

On the 9th August 1853, the Poor Law Commissioners communicate to the Board of Guardians the Poor Law Inspector's report, and state that, under the circumstances, the removal was not contrary to law.

No. 39. Cork Union.—1 February 1854.

Anne Holland was married in London in November 1836 to Thomas Holland, an Englishman, who died on the 17th August 1849, in the parish of Whitechapel, in which parish she resided continuously for 16 years, where her three children were born; she and her children received out-door relief for three years from said parish, till the last 16 months, when it was stopped by the authorities, except a few loaves of bread; was received into the workhouse on the 24th January 1854, and on the following morning was sent to Cork.

On the 8th February 1854, the Poor Law Commissioners communicate this case to the Poor Law Board, London, with documents in support, and on the 22d March 1854 the latter reply, and forward a copy of a letter received from the guardians of the Whitechapel Union on this subject; also a copy of the examination of said Anne Holland, before a magistrate, previous to her removal, and state that they do not consider there has been any violation of the law in the case.

On the 4th April 1854, the Poor Law Commissioners communicate to the Board of Guardians the reply of the Poor Law Board, and state that it appears that Anne Holland was frequently relieved as well at the expense of the parish of Whitechapel as that of Aldgate; and that on her being brought before the magistrate on 17th January last, sufficient information was produced to satisfy the Bench that she was legally removable to Ireland.

No. 40. Cork Union.

Catherine Horgan deposed, 6th Febuary 1854, that she was born in London; during the last five years resided in the parish of Whitechapel, was admitted into Whitechapel workhouse hospital seven or eight weeks ago; on applying for her discharge about three weeks since, was detained against her wishes, and forcibly sent to Cork, had never been there before, nor in any part of Ireland.

On 22d February 1854, the Poor Law Commissioners write to the Poor Law Board London, for an inquiry into the circumstances, and on 8th March the latter, in reply, enclose a copy of a letter received from the guardians of the Whitechapel Union, dated 1 March 1854, which states that no such person as Catherine Horgan was admitted into their workhouse about the time stated, nor forcibly removed therefrom as alleged.

No. 41. Cork Union.

Susan M'Carthy deposed, 6th Febuary 1854, that she is a native of Cork, had resided five years in London; about 12 months ago had an illegitimate child, applied to the authorities of Clerkenwell parish for relief for the child only; both herself and child were admitted and detained in the workhouse, and subsequently passed over to Cork.

On

On 22d February 1854, the Poor Law Commissioners write to the Poor Law Board, London, requesting an inquiry.

No. 42. Cork Union.

Anne Harris deposed, 15th February 1854, that she had resided for the last 11 years in the parish of St. Pancras, London; was married in the same parish; about six weeks previously was obliged, through an accident to her husband which compelled him to enter Middlesex Hospital, to apply for out-door relief, which she received for about three weeks, when being taken ill, together with her child, she was admitted into the hospital of St. Pancras workhouse. Applied for her discharge on recovery; but was, with her child, forcibly sent to Cork, without the knowledge or consent of her husband.

On 22d February 1854, the Poor Law Commissioners write to the Poor Law Board, London, requesting an inquiry into the circumstances; and on the 11th March, the latter reply, and enclose a copy of letter and enclosure received from the parochial authorities of St. Pancras; such enclosure, dated 25th February 1854, being a duplicate copy of a letter sent to Sir Benjamin Hall by the overseer and settlement agent for the directors of the poor of the parish of St. Pancras, and stating that no female of the name of "Harris" had been removed from that parish to Ireland during the last six years; that no man named "Harris" was an inmate of Middlesex Hospital, under the alleged circumstances; that a person named Anne M'Carthy, who with her husband and child was removed from St. Pancras to Cork since October last, seems to be the ideal "Anne Harris;" that the circumstances of her case (which are hereupon fully detailed), prove that she had no settlement in England or Wales, and that she was legally removable under the statute 8 & 9 Vict., c. 66.

On 23d March 1854, the Poor Law Commissioners state the above circumstances to the Board of Guardians of Cork Union, and add that Anne M'Carthy is the person by whom the declaration of 15th February was made; that she now admits such to be her true name; that she was not married; and did not reside for 11 years in the parish of St. Pancras.

No. 43. Cork Union.

Mary Ahern deposed, 20th February 1854, that she is a native of Limerick; had lived for 20 years in London; had resided for the last nine years in the parish of Lambeth, where her four children were born; that lately, her husband being out of employment, she and her children were admitted into and detained in the Lambeth workhouse; were forcibly sent thence to Cork on the 4th instant, and are now inmates of the Cork workhouse.

On 7th March 1854, the Poor Law Commissioners write for an inquiry to the Poor Law Board, London, who reply on 23d March, and enclose a copy of a letter, dated 17th March, received from the guardians of the parish of Lambeth, which shows that Mary Ahern, and her four children, were admitted to the workhouse, on her stating that her husband had deserted her; she had previously applied for relief to the parochial authorities of St. Marylebone, but refused to enter the workhouse; she and her children were maintained in Lambeth workhouse for a period of four months; she was repeatedly informed of the intention to remove her thence.

She entered the Lambeth workhouse again, on 3d March, together with her children, and said that the authorities of Cork had provided a free passage for herself and children back to London.

The Poor Law Commissioners, on 4th April 1854, state the foregoing circumstances to the Cork Board of Guardians, who reply on 5th April, and explain that Mary Ahern left the Cork workhouse, with her family, of her own accord, on 22d February 1854.

No. 44. Donegal Union.

Anne Sharky and James Sharky. The minutes of the Board of Guardians, 1st November 1849, state that these parties, aged respectively sixteen and eight years, were received into the workhouse on that day; mention the circumstances attendant upon their removal from Glasgow, and refer to the depositions of Anne Sharky, dated 1st November 1849. That she left her native place, Drumholm, eight years ago, with her father and mother, &c., and went to Glasgow. About two years since her father died of fever in Glagow; her brother and sister also had the fever, and received parochial relief; she also had fever, and was supported till her recovery by her mother, who shortly afterwards died; she then supported herself by work, but was soon obliged to enter the Glasgow workhouse, where, except for a few short periods, she remained till 30th October last, when the guardians decided on sending her to Donegal with her brother; her sister died in the Glasgow workhouse about a fortnight since. The Parochial Board, Town's Hospital, Glasgow, state, on 30th October 1849, that the Sharkys have no settlement in Glasgow, and call on the Donegal Board of Guardians to receive them; also enclose to the guardians copies of the warrants of removal, dated respectively 29th and 30th October.

On the 14th November 1849, the Poor Law Commissioners write to the Board of Guardians, and state that the children did not obtain a settlement in Glasgow, not having resided there three years continuously previously to the passing of the Scotch Relief Act, 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, or five years, terminating after the passing of that Act. The Commissioners think, however, that the Sharkys may have obtained a settlement by a three years' residence in the barony parish prior to the passing of the Scotch Act, which is dated 4th August 1845.

On 22d November 1849 the Board of Guardians reply, that Anne and James Sharky

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left Ireland in the spring of 1841, and resided in the barony parish (Glasgow) till the spring of 1844. Mention other particulars of their residence in Glasgow, and request the interference of the Commissioners. The latter reply on 5th December, and on same day write to the Board of Supervision, Edinburgh, for an explanation, who reply 13th December, that the Sharkys are not entitled to settlement in Scotland, inasmuch as besides a residence of three years previous to the passing of the Act 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, it is necessary that they should have been proper objects of parochial relief before the passing of such Act, which was not the case.

On 2d January 1850, the Poor Law Commissioners forward a copy of the foregoing to the Board of Guardians, and add, under such circumstances, the removal was not illegal.

On the 22d June 1850, Sir George Grey, as Home Secretary, writes to the Poor Law Commissioners respecting the removal of the Sharkys back to Glasgow, from Donegal, and encloses a letter on the subject from a member of the Glasgow Parochial Board, dated 20th June, and also a copy of deposition of Anne Sharky, made at Glasgow on the 17th June; also a letter of the Parochial Board, Glasgow, dated 30th October 1849. The letter of the 20th June refers generally to the circumstances of the re-removal to Glasgow, and charges the Donegal guardians with want of humanity in the matter. The deposition of Anne Sharky, on 17th June, states that her parents were both natives of Ireland; that they resided for about three years in the Barony Parish of Glasgow, and for about two years and a half in the City Parish of Glasgow, in which parish they died, and at whose expense they were buried; that she and her brother were removed, by order, to Donegal last winter; were admitted to the workhouse there; remained there for about six months, her brother, through illness, having been in the infirmary for about a month of the time; were returned to Glasgow by the guardians, who said that she and her brother were entitled to relief, as there their parents had died; her brother died four or five days after their arrival at Glasgow; he had been very unwell on the voyage across from Londonderry, and was put to bed on his arrival; neither she nor her brother had been examined by a surgeon before leaving Donegal; they travelled in an open cart from Donegal to Londonderry, having left on Monday morning and arrived on Wednesday, and not having been in bed during that time; she considered her brother much the worse for being exposed for two nights in the cart; he was nine years old when he died. The letter of the Parochial Board, of 30th October 1849, recites the periods and places of residence of the Sharkys in Glasgow, states that the barony parish is not in Glasgow, and that they are not entitled to a settlement therein.

On 29th June 1850, the Poor Law Commissioners forward the letter from Sir G. Grey of 22d June, and the enclosures therein, as well as other papers, to C. G. Otway, Poor Law Inspector, and direct him to proceed to Donegal and investigate the matter. They further write to Mr. Otway on 7 August, requesting him to forward his report.

On 9th August Mr. Otway forwards his report on the case, enclosing a copy of evidence, he recapitulates the proceedings of the Board of Guardians in the matter, and the treatment of the Sharkys, refers to the statement of the clerk of the union, which shows that the Sharkys were discharged from the workhouse at the request of Anne Sharky, and were not sent to Glasgow at the expense of the union, refers to the statement of the medical officer, who says that he treated James Sharky for itch and for a cold, that he did not see James Sharky or Anne Sharky immediately previous to their discharge from the workhouse; that they were both in the main body of the house among the healthy class; encloses the sworn depositions of the carman, who took the Sharkys from Donegal to Londonderry, which differ materially from the depositions of Anne Sharky; believes the former to be the true version, and concludes that no grounds exist for a charge of inhumanity against the Board of Guardians, in regard to the removal, or the manner in which it was carried out.

On 14th August 1850, the Poor Law Commissioners reply to Sir G. Grey's communication of 22d June 1850, and enclose a copy of Mr. Otway's report, and of the evidence taken at the inquiry.

No. 45. Donegal Union.

Catherine Maguily. Extract from minutes of the Board of Guardians, 27th June 1850, that Catherine Maguily, widow, and three children, have been sent to this workhouse by the relieving officer of the parish of Bo'ness (10 miles from Glasgow); she and her husband had been in Scotland for eight years, where her children were born and her husband died; she was sent to her birthplace in the Donegal Union three months before her husband's death; after being there about five weeks, applied for relief.

The Board request an inquiry by the Poor Law Commissioners, who on 6th July reply that they will communicate with the Poor Law authorities in Scotland, to whom they write on the same day, requesting an explanation, which the Board of Supervision, Edinburgh, forward on 19th July in a letter from the inspector of poor of the parish of Bo'ness, dated 15th July, which states that no person of the name of Catherine Maguily had ever been removed from that parish to Ireland; that a Widow Mackinlay, whose husband died of cholera in November 1849, had been sent to Ireland about three months ago; this family had been frequently assisted by the parish of Bo'ness; attempts had been made, without success, to ascertain if they had acquired and retained a settlement in Scotland; they had not a shadow of claim in Bo'ness parish; the woman Mackinlay was sent to Ireland at her own request; her statements are altogether unworthy of credit.

On 24th July 1850, the Poor Law Commissioners forward the foregoing explanation to the Board of Guardians of Donegal Union.

No. 46. Drogheda Union.

James M'Vee deposed, on 6th January 1848, that he is a native of Drogheda; that he was altogether 16 years in Wigan, where he rented a house for nearly two years; went to Manchester with his wife and two children, shortly after Easter last; applied for parochial relief there on 22d December 1847, which he received till 28th December, when he was removed to Dublin, though he asked to be sent back to Wigan, where he considers he has a settlement.

On 12th January 1848 the Poor Law Commissioners write to the Board of Guardians for information as to the amount of rent paid for the house in Wigan, which amount the Board, in reply, 20th January, state to have been 1*s.* 6*d.* per week, or 3*l.* 18*s.* per year. The Commissioners' reply, on 2d February, that James M'Vee had not obtained a settlement in Wigan, and so could not have been returned thither from Manchester; also, that his irremovability would not revive if he were now to go to Wigan voluntarily.

No. 47. Drogheda Union.

—— *Reilly.* The minutes of the Board of Guardians, 11th April 1850, show that a woman of this name, who has resided in the union for the last three years, has lately applied for relief. She was born at Plymouth, left that place when nine years old, came to Longford, in Ireland, where she married; returned again to Plymouth with her husband, who died there; received relief from the parish authorities of Plymouth for a period of 12 months, when she was removed to Ireland as being chargeable there, on account of her husband having been an Irishman.

On 7th April 1850, the Poor Law Commissioners inform the Board, that as the removal of the woman Reilly occurred three years ago, the order for her removal cannot now be appealed against, even should any legal grounds of appeal exist.

No. 48. Dromore, West, Union.

Patrick Hopkins. Report from Captain Hamilton, Poor Law Inspector to the Poor Law Commissioners, dated 19th February 1851.

Patrick Hopkins, aged 60, his wife Anne, aged 50, and three children, Anthony, James, and Patrick. This family state that they are from the Electoral Division of Thurlough, in the Castlebar Union. They migrated to Liverpool, where they became inmates of the workhouse, and were kept only a few days, when they were placed on board the Sligo steamer, with 8 lbs. of bread. As soon as they landed at Sligo, they proceeded to Skreen, in the Dromore, West, Union. They were compelled, from extreme weakness, to remain at the latter place three days; and the attention of the relieving officer being directed to them, he gave them relief, and, having procured a cart, sent them to Ballina, where they were received into the workhouse.

On the 1st March 1851, the Poor Law Commissioners submit the case of Patrick Hopkins to the Lord Lieutenant, and state the hardship of transmitting persons in a destitute state to seaport towns in Ireland, without providing them with proper means of support till they reach their place of settlement.

Letter from the Under-Secretary of State, transmitting copies of letters and enclosures received from the Home Office and Poor Law Board, London, in which the latter state that they will inquire into the above case.

The Commissioners, on the 30th May, inform Captain Hamilton, Poor Law Inspector, that they had received information, that when Patrick Hopkins and family were placed on board the Sligo steamer, they were given 5 *s.* in cash and 5 *s.* worth of food.

No further correspondence appears to have taken place.

No. 49. Dublin (North) Union.

Elizabeth Holt and Elizabeth Moore and others. Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians relative to the removal of female paupers from Bolton, dated 7th July 1847.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians in reply, dated 19th May 1847.

Report from John Ball, Esq., Assistant Commissioner, enclosing depositions, dated 14th July 1847.

Elizabeth Holt, being duly sworn, says, that she was admitted to the workhouse of the North Dublin Union on last Sunday week. Deponent is married; her husband is in England. Deponent was born in Belturbet; was brought up with her grandfather, a shoemaker; her father died in America. Deponent was married about 16 years ago in Dublin; her husband was a private in the 6th Carabineers Regiment. Deponent is certain the ceremony was performed in Dublin, but she cannot say whereabouts, nor does she know the name of the clergyman. The ceremony was not performed in a church; thinks it was in the house of the clergyman; Pittman, a private in the same regiment, and his wife, were the witnesses. Deponent has heard that Pittman died in hospital, and that his wife is gone to some part of Ireland. Less than a week after deponent was married, she sailed with her husband for England, and did not return to Ireland until the day upon which she was admitted to the workhouse. For about five years deponent continued to go about with the regiment. Deponent's husband got his discharge in Nottingham. Deponent then went to Manchester with her husband, and remained there about a week; they then went to Little Bolton,

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where they lived together in the same house for about nine years. After they first went to Bolton, deponent's husband went to work as a labourer with Mr. Hardcastle for the summer, and afterwards was working in the Brightmet coalpits near Bolton, under Mr. Robert Gundry, until about two years ago. Deponent used to work by the day as a servant, and used to take needlework. Deponent's husband was sick twice during that time; the first time that he was sick, he received about 8*s.* a week from Mr. Dawson, the overseer of Little Bolton. He went with his stepmother before Mr. Ashworth, a magistrate, and she proved that he was born and brought up in Great Bolton. The next time that her husband was sick, deponent went to the overseer of Great Bolton, and got relief from him; 5*s.* a week were given that time. From time to time deponent's husband was drunk, and did not give her anything for two or three weeks together. Deponent used to apply to the overseer of Great Bolton, and he used always to give her relief. About two years ago deponent was obliged to separate from her husband, in consequence of his ill-usage; she was obliged to lock him out. Deponent does not exactly know where he lived after that; he went to Liverpool, where he remained about a week. Before he went to Liverpool he went to the overseer of Great Bolton, Mr. Bratchey, and desired him to allow deponent 4*s.* a week, and that he would repay it on his return. Deponent recollects receiving 4*s.* for one week; is not sure whether she received relief for a second week at that time. After his return from Liverpool, deponent was reconciled to her husband, and he lived for about a fortnight with her. In consequence of his violence and ill-usage, deponent was forced to put him out again; after that her husband used to give her 5 *s.* a week, and sometimes more. Deponent continued to receive money from him until about three weeks ago, when her youngest child died; he then gave her 2 *s.*; that was the last money deponent received from him. At his own request deponent brought her children to him on the Sunday after she buried her infant; her husband then beat her and abused her; she returned home with her children. On applying for relief to the overseer of Great Bolton (Mr. Nelson), he gave deponent an order for the workhouse. Deponent at first refused to go to the workhouse, but at last she took the order, and went into the workhouse of Great Bolton, on Monday, 21st June. Deponent remained in the workhouse until Saturday, 3d July; she went into the workhouse with two children; she has one other child, a boy, who supports himself by working in factories. On Friday, 2d July, a man came to the workhouse with an order to remove deponent and another woman, who was in the workhouse. Upon hearing this, deponent applied to the master of the workhouse for leave to go out with her children, saying that she could support them by her own labour. The master refused, and sent people to watch, lest she should leave the workhouse. On Saturday morning the same man came to the workhouse before breakfast with two policemen. Deponent was desired to go to the railway station, and she accordingly went there with her children; she did not offer any resistance, but she was very sorry to go; they went by railway to Liverpool; the same man (whose name is John, deponent does not know his other name) took them into the public-house; there were twelve; amongst whom was a man and some children, and an infant besides, making 13; they had 8lbs. of bread, 1lb. of cheese, and a quart of ale. The man John accompanied them to the quay, and gave them papers, and saw them go on board a steamboat; he went away, saying that he would return, and promised that he would give them either meat, or money to buy meat with; he never returned; deponent had nothing on board; her children were crying for bread; she was nearly distracted; she got some bread from a sailor, which she divided between her children; they were landed in Dublin at four o'clock on Sunday morning. Deponent and two other women, who came from Bolton, came to the North Dublin Union workhouse when the gates were open; they were very kindly received. Deponent produced her husband's regimental account book, which states, that he enlisted in the 6th Regiment of Dragoon Guards on the 6th September 1819, at Bolton, in the county of Lancaster; he is stated to have been married on the 9th March 1834, at Dublin. She first knew her husband at Belturbet; she went to Dublin before her husband, and met him there to be married; deponent's husband burned her marriage papers, and some characters which she received; soon after they went to Bolton. During the last week that deponent saw her husband, and buried her child, he, for the first time, denied having been married to her; he never denied it before; he made several attempts to cut deponent's throat; he broke her arm, and her shoulder-bone, and her thigh.

Elizabeth Moore, being duly sworn, says, that her father, John Quaile, was a soldier; believes that she was born in England. She lived with her father and mother in Great Bolton until she was married; was married in Great Bolton. Her husband was an Irishman, named Robert Moore, a pedlar, he is dead six years. Deponent used to work at a factory in Bolton for some years before she was married. She went back to work at Mr. Brooke's factory after her husband died. She worked at that factory until it stopped, that was about two years ago. Deponent then went into the workhouse of Great Bolton, with two children; she stayed in the workhouse until about ten weeks ago, when she went out, receiving an allowance of 3*s.* a week from the parish. She partly supported herself by needlework. When she went to receive her allowance, about a fortnight ago, she was given an order for the workhouse. Instead of putting deponent into the workhouse, they put her into the Pass House (probationary ward), where she was kept from Monday till Saturday morning. One of deponent's children climbed over the wall, and got away. When deponent went to the workhouse they told her they were going to send her to Ireland; she wanted to go out, and said that she would not trouble them any more, but they said that they would not let her out. On the Saturday morning some police came and went with deponent and some others to the railway station. A man named John went with them to Liverpool;

Liverpool; they were sent off before breakfast from Bolton; they had 8 lbs. of bread and 1 lb. of cheese, and a quart of ale, in Liverpool, for 12 of them that came from Bolton. The man, John, who was then on board of the steamer, promised, and swore that he would return and give them some money to support them; they never saw that man since. The children were crying for food on board the ship. Deponent's husband belonged to the county of Sligo, but he was brought up in England; she was living with him for 14 years in Bolton; he used to make clothes, and carry them about and sell them. He was brought up to be a tailor; before he came to Bolton he lived in Sheffield. Deponent does not know whether he served his time to that trade. Deponent has been in bad health for about three years; has been much worse since she came over to Ireland. She has rheumatism in her legs, and believes that she is in a decline. She was on the deck of the steamer all night; they landed at four o'clock on Sunday morning. Deponent used to take medicine three times a week when she was in the Great Bolton workhouse. She used to do needlework, but not any other sort of work, in the workhouse. When they told deponent that she was to go to Ireland, she told the governor of the workhouse that she was born in England; he said that he did not care, and laughed at deponent.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, dated 15th July 1847, enclosing Mr. Ball's Report.

Letter from the Poor Law Board, London, enclosing copies of examination in this case, dated 23d August 1847.

Letter from the clerk to the Board of Guardians of Great Bolton, dated 13th August 1847, enclosing examinations touching the removal of Elizabeth Holt and Elizabeth Moore from Great Bolton workhouse.

Mr. John Seddon Scowcroft, assistant overseer of Great Bolton, saith, that on or about the 26th June last, I obtained an order from the Bolton borough justices for the removal of Elizabeth Holt and her two children from Great Bolton to Ireland. Elizabeth Holt was an Irishwoman, and her husband was then absent from her. She had not lived five years consecutively in Great Bolton before her removal. Don't know anything of Elizabeth Moore. Holt and her children were chargeable to Great Bolton, and were in the workhouse there. Was present before the justices when an order for the removal of Holt and her children was signed. Her examination was taken and read over, which she signed and swore to. She did not object to being removed; directed John Entwistle to take her and others to Liverpool, and pass them to Ireland. There were in all 37 persons, consisting of adults and children. Gave him 6*l.* to pay the costs of removal, except the railway fares from Bolton to Liverpool, which witness paid. He returned witness 1*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* out of the money. Produces copy examination, and order for the removal of Elizabeth Holt. A duplicate of the examination and order was given to Entwistle.

Copy of Entwistle's account of the 6*l.* which was paid to him to cover the costs of removal:

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Paid fares from Liverpool to Ireland	3	–	–
Paid paupers in money and food	1	2	–
Expenses	–	3	–
Railway	–	2	4
£.	4	7	4

(signed) *J. Woodhouse.*
J. S. Scowcroft.

John Entwistle, of Spring-gardens, Great Bolton, weaver, saith, I am occasionally employed by the overseers of Great Bolton to remove pauper families. On the 2d July last, Mr. Scowcroft, assistant overseer of Great Bolton, told deponent that there were several families to be removed, two of which, Holt and Moore, were in the Bolton workhouse. The others were in the pass-house, near the workhouse, and in lodgings in the town; said deponent must have them all at the railway station at Bolton at seven the following morning, to go to Liverpool, and he would meet deponent there with money. Deponent went up to the workhouse that afternoon; saw the master, and asked him to show witness Holt and Moore. He did so, and deponent went to them and told them to prepare for going to Liverpool, and thence to Ireland on the following morning, and to be ready at seven o'clock for the railway train. Holt said she was the wife of an Englishman, and ought not to be removed. Holt did not want to be removed, but does not remember what Moore said, or whether she was unwilling to go. On the following morning, about half-past six, deponent went to the workhouse; there were two policemen (Murray and Lomax) with deponent; saw both Holt and Moore; they had not collected their clothes together, and were averse to being removed. The police said they must go. Holt and Moore then collected their clothes together, and accompanied deponent and the police and the other persons to the railway station. Mr. Scowcroft was waiting for them at the station. Holt and Moore, with the others, got into the third-class railway carriage; after that, the book-keeper of the railway office counted them, and Mr. Scowcroft paid their fares; deponent had the charge of 37 persons, adults and children. Mr. Scowcroft gave deponent several orders, and told deponent to see the people on board the steamers at Liverpool; he also gave deponent 6*l.*, and told deponent to pay the fares by the steam-boats, and to provide them with food, and

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pay them money to the full extent of the allowance made by the justices' order, after deducting the cost of their food. At the time when they started from Bolton, one of the people (a woman named Turpin) was sick; she had been in the pass-house near the workhouse with her husband and four children, and was taken from that place to go with the party. When they reached Liverpool, she was very unwell. Some gentlemen who were at the station saw her, and recommended that she should be taken to the fever ward in Liverpool. Deponent then procured two spring carts, to take the people to the Clarence Dock, where the steamer was stationed. They stopped at the fever ward in Liverpool. A gentleman was standing at the door, when deponent told him that he had a sick woman in one of the carts. She was taken out of the cart, and the gentleman examined her and said she was in a fever. After he had examined her, he said she and her husband must stop there. They did so with their four children. Deponent then proceeded with the carts and the remainder of the people to the Clarence Dockyard; arrived there about 10 o'clock. After remaining there a short time, deponent took all that had accompanied him (except the Turpins) to a public-house facing the dock gates, and ordered a quart of beer for them. Deponent then asked Holt to go with him to purchase some food; that was about half-past 10 o'clock; deponent went with her to a cookshop and bought two loaves of bread and a pound of cheese, for which he paid 2*s.* 8*d.* Holt said she could not eat cheese, and deponent therefore bought her a quarter of a pound of pig's cheek, for which he paid 4*d.* They then returned to the public-house. Only eight of the persons would partake of the bread and cheese. Moore and her children, and Holt and her children partook of them; all the cheese was eaten by the eight persons, and about half the bread. Deponent then paid for another quart of ale, which the party drank. It was about 12 o'clock at noon when they had done eating. The fragments were gathered up, and taken by Holt in her apron. They remained in the public-house and dockyard until about one o'clock, when deponent took them all down to the vessels. One vessel was going to Drogheda, and the other to Dublin; deponent took Holt and Moore and their children, and an old man, in all seven persons, to the Dublin steam-packet; saw the captain and paid their fares, and gave him the orders for their removal. They then went on board; deponent left them on board at about a quarter past one o'clock, and before leaving them, gave Holt in money 2*s.* 6*d.*, to Moore 1*s.* 9*d.*, and to the old man 1*s.*, and Holt had at that time the fragments of the loaves in her apron. Deponent paid for the party as follows:

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
For two spring carts	–	2	–
Bread and cheese and pig's cheek	–	3	–
Beer	–	1	–
Holt	–	2	6
Moore	–	1	9
The old man	–	1	–
Paid to the families who were going to Drogheda	–	10	9
Paid fares to Dublin and Drogheda	3	–	–
Deponent's own railway fare home	–	2	4
Own expenses	–	3	–
£.	4	7	4

10 August 1847. (signed) *John Woodhouse.*
John Entwistle.

Letter from Job Harrison, governor of the workhouse, Bolton, dated 4th August 1847, giving an account of the removal of the paupers Holt and Moore, and the reason for refusing Holt permission to go out of the workhouse.

Copy of the depositions of Elizabeth Holt, sworn before the Bolton justices, 6th June 1847.

Copy of the order of the Bolton magistrates for the removal of Elizabeth Holt and family to Ireland, dated 26th June 1847.

Copy of warrant of Stephen Blair, Esq., mayor of Bolton, dated 7th November 1846, directing the removal of paupers.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, dated 11th October 1847, on the subject of the removal of Elizabeth Moore and Elizabeth Holt, and requesting that any steps which the Poor Law Board, London, may have deemed it necessary to take may be communicated to this office.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 12th October 1847, requesting them to procure proof of the alleged marriage of Elizabeth Holt in London.

Letter from the Board of Guardians to the Poor Law Commissioners, dated 14th October 1847, stating that Elizabeth Holt has left the workhouse of the North Dublin Union.

Letter from the Poor Law Board, London, enclosing copy of a Report of Mr. Austin, Assistant Commissioner, and depositions of Elizabeth Holt and Elizabeth Moore, dated 13th November 1847.

Copy of Mr. Austin's Report on the cases of Elizabeth Holt and Elizabeth Moore, dated 10th November 1847, referred to in the foregoing letter.

Copy of the depositions taken by Mr. Austin, with regard to the removal of Elizabeth Holt.

Copy of depositions taken by Mr. Austin, in the case of the removal of Elizabeth Moore.

Letter

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, dated 18th November 1847, acknowledging the receipt of Mr. Austin's Report, and requesting to be informed of any further proceedings which may be taken in the matter.

Letter from the Poor Law Board, London, enclosing copy of letter addressed to the guardians of Bolton Union, dated 23d December 1847.

Copy of letter from Viscount Ebrington, Secretary to the Poor Law Board, London, to John Woodhouse, Esq., clerk to the Board of Guardians, Bolton, Lancashire, relative to the removal of Elizabeth Holt and Elizabeth Moore from Great Bolton to Ireland, and censuring the Board of Guardians for their great negligence and irregularity in the removal of Irish paupers, and severely reprimanding Mr. Scowcroft for his conduct upon the occasion of the paupers Holt and Moore.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians of the North Dublin Union, dated 28th December 1847, enclosing copy of letter which the Commissioners addressed, on 11th October last, to the Poor Law Commissioners in England, together with copy of letter and enclosure which the Commissioners received from the English Poor Law Board on the case.

No. 50. Dublin (North) Union.

Mary Donovan.—Report from John Ball, Esq., Assistant Commissioner, enclosing deposition of Mary Donovan, removed from Liverpool, dated 10th August 1847.

Mary Donovan, being duly sworn, stated before Mr. Ball (Assistant Commissioner), she lived 30 years in the parish of Clonakilty (Cork); that she, together with her husband, went to Newport (Wales); that she travelled with her family to Chipping Norton, where her husband took fever and died; she then was travelling to Liverpool, and, on the way, she and her family took fever, and one of her children died. She arrived at Liverpool, and expected to be passed to her own parish; she went to the parish officer, and was examined on oath by a magistrate, who said that he would send her to Dublin, to which she replied, that she had no business there, that it would be transporting her 150 miles from her own parish; the magistrate also said that he would not send her to Cork; that the authorities in Dublin were bound to do so: further stated, that she received 1*s.* 6*d.* and some bread, and was lodged for the night in the Night Asylum at Liverpool; did not receive any other relief than that above mentioned, which was on Monday, till Thursday, when she and her family were placed on board the "Royal William" steamer, and as they were going on board they received 6*d.* in money and seven pennyworth of bread. On Thursday, she and her family got dinner; she was not asked whether she would go to any other port besides Dublin. When landed in Dublin she applied to the Lord Mayor, got relief, and was sent to the workhouse; she informed the guardians that she could obtain her livelihood if sent to her own parish.

The Commissioners communicate with the Board in London, on the 11th August, and say they consider the above case a hardship, and that they are desirous of inquiring into it.

On the 10th September, the Board in London reply, and transmit copy of report received from the select vestry at Liverpool relative to the removal of Mary Donovan, from which it would appear that she was not removed through the instrumentality of the officers of that parish, as no pauper bearing the name of Mary Donovan was ever chargeable there; nor is there an entry of such a person being removed in the book in which all orders of removal to Ireland by justices are recorded; neither does it appear that she ever slept at the Night Asylum.

On the 15th September, the Commissioners inform the guardians that Mr. Ball had sent in his report, together with the deposition of Mary Donovan; and they have been in communication with the authorities in England relative to her removal, and had received information that Mary Donovan had made false statements, but that, should the guardians be desirous of further inquiry, such would be instituted upon further particulars being furnished.

No. 51. Dublin (North) Union.

The Sheehan Family, orphans.—Letter from the Board of Guardians, enclosing a letter from Mr. John Stephens, Inspector of Poor for the Parish of Bo'ness, dated the 7th October 1847, directing the attention of the Commissioners to the removal of the children of John Sheehan, deceased, about to be transmitted from Scotland to Ireland; that the late John Sheehan, comptroller of customs at the above place, died, leaving a widow and eight children unprovided for; that this widow lived for some time in a state of great poverty, and died, leaving six children; that he finds that John Sheehan had no place of settlement since he left Dublin in 1830; that he held the office of land-carriage officer (Dublin) from 1798 to 1799, and that of clerk in the office of Examiner, in the same place, from 1799 to 1830, and that he has not been five years continuously in any place since. Such being the case, Mr. Stephens considers Dublin his place of settlement, and writes to the guardians previous to transmitting his children.

Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 12th October 1847, stating that Mr. Stephens does not state Mr. Sheehan's case with sufficient minuteness to enable them to judge as to his place of settlement, but that they had written to the Board of Supervision (Scotland) for further information.

Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Supervision (Scotland), dated 12th October, transmitting the letter received by the guardians from Mr. Stephens, and requesting

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requesting them to furnish the Commissioners with further particulars as to the places of residence of the late John Sheehan.

The Board of Supervision reply on the 21st October, and enclose copy of letter they had received from John Stephens, in which, in addition to the particulars which the Commissioners were already in possession of, it is stated that John Sheehan was removed from Dublin in 1830 to Arklow, as principal coast officer, where he remained till 1836. His next station was Workington, where he was till 1838; he was then sent to Maryport, where he remained a short time, and then he removed to the township of Ellenborough, in 1839; left that place for Bo'ness in 1843, and that he died in Bo'ness in 1847. Mr. Stephens likewise says that he has reason to believe the place of his marriage was Arklow. Shortly after the death of her husband, Mrs. Sheehan applied for relief, which for some time she received, till it was discovered that she was disposing of her furniture, and obtaining drink for the money she received, and her allowance was stopped; she died, and the Parochial Board took charge of her children; the two eldest having gone to sea.

On the 28th October the Commissioners again address the Board of Supervision, and inquire whether two of Sheehan's children which were born in Bo'ness could not obtain a settlement there; they also inform the Board of Supervision that as there is no law of settlement in Ireland, the Sheehan family is not entitled to relief in any one union there more than another.

The Board of Supervision reply on the 5th November, and inform the Commissioners that the 77th section of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, confers no power on the Parochial Board of Bo'ness to remove to Ireland the two children who were born there, and that according to the law of Scotland they must be considered to have gained a settlement at Bo'ness by birth.

On the 9th November the Commissioners transmit to the guardians the correspondence with the Board of Supervision.

No. 52. Dublin (North) Union.

Patrick Egan, widower, deposeth, that he has five children, three of whom are in the workhouse; the other two went into hospital. That he resided in Stockport 15 years, and kept a house nine years; has been in England 20 years, with the exception of one fortnight he came over to Ireland. Deponent further states that he was born in the county Roscommon (Ireland); that he lived in John-street, Stockport, continuously for nine years; that he is known to many persons in Stockport, where he has often been relieved; that upon applying for relief before last Christmas, was told by the relieving officer that he would be more comfortable in the workhouse, and subsequently went into the same. Deponent further states, that he was three times taken before the magistrates, to be passed over to Ireland, which they refused to sanction; that he was locked up in the workhouse, and afterwards taken out by the lodgekeeper, who placed him and his children in a railway carriage; and also that this lodgekeeper accompanied them to Manchester, where he gave them in charge to another man, who took them to Liverpool, from whence they were sent by steamer to Ireland. Deponent further states that he got bread and money on board the steamer.

Extract from minutes of the guardians, dated 23d February 1848, requesting the Commissioners to inquire into the above case. The Commissioners, on the 14th March, inform the guardians that if they consider themselves aggrieved by the removal in question, and will take the steps pointed out by 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, s. 6, in reference to the Commissioners, that they will forward their views. The guardians make resolution to the above effect on the 15th March, and the Commissioners communicate with the Poor Law Board, London, on the 25th March, and enclose the above resolution, together with report of Captain Huband, and deposition of Patrick Egan.

On the 11th April the Poor Law Board transmit copy of memorandum from Mr. Austin, in which it is stated that the clerk of Stockport Union produced the warrant under which Egan and his children were removed.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the guardians, setting forth the points an appeal would involve, if decided upon in this case.

No further correspondence appears relative to this removal.

No. 53.—Dublin (North) Union.

Removal of Irish Poor.—Letter from the Board of Guardians to the Poor Law Commissioners, dated 15th January 1848, requesting them to procure legal advice as to whether a native of Ireland, becoming chargeable to a parish in England in which he has no settlement, but in which he has resided continuously for the preceding five years, can be legally removed to Ireland under any Act for the removal of Irish poor.

Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, in reply, dated 18th January, stating that they do not deem it necessary to take legal advice on the above point, as there is no doubt as to the law respecting it. No Irishman or other person can legally be removed from any English parish in which such person shall have resided for five years next before the application for a warrant for removal. No Irishman, however, or other person, gains a settlement in an English parish by such five years' residence. Such residence merely confers what is called an exemption from liability to be removed from the particular parish in which the residence took place. Still, if an Irishman or other person ceases to reside in that parish, he is liable to removal from any other English parish in which he had not obtained a settlement, and in which he has not resided five years.

No. 54. Dublin (North) Union.

Richard Byrne.—Extract from Minutes of Guardians, dated 26th January 1848, requesting the Commissioners to inquire into the removal of Richard Byrne, who states, by letter, that he has been in Leeds 22 years; that his wife is an Englishwoman, and that he has five children, all born in England. Further states, that he was sent to Dublin for not signing a pass, or swearing to a parish; that he, his wife and family, were forcibly taken out of his own house in Leeds, where all his household furniture is.

The Commissioners, on the 8th February, inform the guardians that they will issue an inquiry into the above case, and on the same date instruct Captain Huband to conduct said inquiry. Captain Huband sends in his report, dated 19th February, together with the sworn deposition of Byrne in his report; he comments upon the discrepancies between the statement made by Byrne, upon which the inquiry was instituted, and the sworn deposition made by said Byrne before him; he also conveys his opinion as to the legality of this removal.

Richard Byrne states in deposition made by him before Captain Huband, that he resided in Leeds (Yorkshire) five years and a half; that he is by trade a weaver, but that he worked as a labourer for the last four years with Mr. Mitchell, Chatham-street, Leeds; that he always lived in St. Mary's parish, Leeds; up to the time he went to live with a Mr. Sheppard in Leeds, he had always resided with his father at Quarry-hill, Leeds; that he was married to his wife Susan at Lady Lane Chapel, Leeds; that he had five children, all born in England, three at Leeds, the other two, one at Huddersfield, and one at Bradford; further states that he applied for relief on the 15th November, and was removed from Leeds on the 18th; that he was visited by the relieving officer, who told him to attend at the workhouse; he then received a letter, and was informed that on presentation thereof at the Vagrant Office he would be relieved; presented the letter accordingly, and he and family were taken into the house, where they were forcibly detained; was taken before the magistrates, and handed a pass to sign, which he refused to do. A warrant was then granted, and he, together with family, were taken back to the Vagrant Office, and subsequently was sent to Huddersfield, where he was placed in gaol, but his wife and family in lodgings. Was handcuffed and sent to Liverpool, where he was placed in a steamer, and just when the same was about to move off, his hands were released; he obtained 16 lb. of bread and 1*s.* on board the steamer, from a man who accompanied them. Further states, that his daughter was taken away from her employment by which she earned 5*s.* a week, and removed along with them. He arrived in Dublin, and after some time was received into the North Dublin Union.

Deponent further states, that he never made any application for relief previous to the time he was detained at the Vagrant Office. When taken before the magistrates, did not undergo any examination. Could make a livelihood if back again in England; has no friends in Ireland; was born in the Coombe, in the city of Dublin; states, that the man who wrote the letter for him to the master of the workhouse made mistakes as to the length of his residence in Leeds. Deponent explains a statement made by him in his letter to the master of the workhouse, viz., "that he was forcibly taken out of his house in Leeds," by now saying, that he meant to state that he was not permitted to return to his house.

Letter from the Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, dated 29th February, transmitting extract of minutes of the guardians, and also asking what security the Board will require should an appeal be made in the case of Byrne. The Poor Law Board reply on the 7th March.

Further correspondence between the Commissioners and the Poor Law Board, London, dated 9th March; reply 15th March. Letters from the Commissioners, dated 6th and 28th April, relative to the transmission of papers, and inquiring what security will be required should an appeal be made in this case. On the 6th May the Poor Law Board, London, communicate with the Commissioners, and convey to them their doubt as to the success of an appeal should it be made, on the grounds that the facts of the case are not sufficiently clear. The Commissioners reply, on the 19th May, in which they discuss the objections raised to an appeal by the Poor Law Board, and express their dissent from the view taken in this case by the Board; they also say, that they fear that too much time has elapsed for an appeal to be made; but that they are of opinion that Byrne has been improperly removed. Letter from the Commissioners to the Lord Lieutenant, dated 19th May, transmitting correspondence with the Poor Law Board, and calling the attention of Government to the different views taken by the Commissioners and the Poor Law Board, as to this removal, with a view to the establishment of some system for future guidance.

No. 55. Dublin (North) Union.

Eliza Daveridge, Harriet Kennedy, Mary Anne Hanley, John Clynes, Julia Reilly, and *Thomas Grogan.*

Extract from the Minutes of Guardians, dated 26th April 1848, requesting the Commissioners to have the depositions of the above paupers taken down; and on the 17th May the Poor Law Board communicate with the Commissioners in Ireland, and enclose copy of Mr. Austin's (Poor Law Inspector) report and other documents relative to the removal of John Clynes and family from Liverpool. Mr. Austin transmits on the 12th May copy of the "Freeman's Journal," containing statements relative to the removal of John Clynes and Mary Anne Hanley.

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William Bottoms, relieving officer, Cheadle district, Stockport, states, that he has relieved John Clynes; that he, together with his family, were removed to Ireland; that he had lived in Cheadle 4 ½ years; that he had previously lived in Stockport; that he was absent from his family six months, during which the guardians issued a warrant for him, which was subsequently withdrawn upon his maintaining his family; he again applied for relief, and was sent over to Ireland, having been relieved for some time before; his regular pass was made out.

James Dickson, taskmaster (Stockport Union), states, that John Clynes, his wife and family, came to the workhouse on the 18th April; that he (Dickson) took him before two justices of the borough of Stockport, and that he swore to his pass.

Joseph Rickerton, removal officer, states, that he removed, under magistrates' warrant, John Clynes, his wife and family.

John Clynes, in his examination before the magistrates, stated, that he was born in Dublin, which he left 23 years ago; has no settlement in England, and is now chargeable to the district of Cheadle Bulkeley (Stockport).

Joseph Rickerton (removal officer) states, that he removed, under magistrate's warrant, Mary Hanley, who had been in hospital; that her regular pass was made out; that she did not appear sorry to go, and said she would return.

James Dickson (taskmaster) stated, that Mary Hanley was admitted into the vagrant ward on the 12th March; that she was sick and sent to hospital.

On the 23d May the Poor Law Commissioners transmit to the guardians papers and documents relative to the removal of John Clynes and Mary Anne Hanley, and on the same date request Captain Huband to examine Mary Hanley.

Captain Huband, on the 26th June, transmits his report, together with the depositions taken, which are as follows:

Eliza Daveridge, being duly sworn, states, that she was born at Milverton (Somersetshire); she has obtained relief. She is a single woman, and 21 years of age. Entered the workhouse on the 22d April, previous to which she lived in Silver-street, Island Bridge, and Liffy-street. Has been sickly a long time. Received from the relieving officer at Milverton bread and money; never permanently lived at Milverton; used to work in silk factories in Taunton, to which place she used to go from Milverton on Monday mornings, returning on Saturday nights. Does not know the names of the parishes in which either Milverton or Taunton are situate. The workhouse to which those places are attached is at Wellington, in which she was for one month 10 years ago. Does not believe her parents ever were in the workhouse; has known them to get relief. Further states, that she was induced to go to Ireland by reason of promises and threats. Was never taken before a magistrate, nor never signed a pass. Was sent to Bristol, and from thence to Dublin, where she supported herself by washing, till, becoming sickly, was compelled to go into the workhouse.

Mary Anne Hanley, being duly sworn, states, that she was born in Dale-street, Liverpool. Her mother is dead; her father is still living, and when last she saw him he lived at 14, Mount-street, Glossop. For 12 months previous to her transmission to Ireland, had worked at a cotton factory at Stockport, and was earning 1*l.* 5*s.* per week. Was attacked with fever, and went into hospital at Heaton Norris; when recovered, would not be permitted to return home, but was taken to the workhouse, where she was detained, contrary to her consent. Objected to go to the workhouse, and said that she could support herself. As soon as she got to the workhouse, a woman placed her in a ward, and told her that she should remain there till the doctor saw her, previous to being admitted into the house. The doctor saw her and asked her if she was to go into the house; she replied, that she did not know what they were going to do with her; said she wished to go to Glossop, where her father was. Told the doctor that she was an Englishwoman, and that she had no friends in Ireland. Was never taken before any magistrate or Board of Guardians. Finally was sent to Liverpool, and from thence to Dublin. If she had been permitted to return home after her illness, could have got immediate employment.

Harriet Kennedy states, that she is a native of Belfast; that she came to Manchester after the death of her father, in 1832. Has lived in Brown-street, Salford, 16 years. Is married; was left by her husband, when she applied for relief at Salford; was directed to go to the magistrates, and prove her settlement, which she twice failed in doing; she obtained relief, and was sent to Dublin. Her mother and brother are now in Manchester; one of her children is with her mother in Manchester; the other is with her in Dublin.

John Clynes states that he was born in Dublin; both his father and mother were Irish. Lived in several places in the townships of Stockport and Cheadle Bulkeley for short periods, when he came to Daw Bank, in the township of Stockport, where he remained 11 years. Whilst there, he married, and removed to Duke-street, on Sandy Brow, in the same township. Remained there nine months, and went to King-street; from King-street went to Edgerley, where he resided in various parts for short periods. Within the five years previous to his removal has twice changed his residence in Cheadle Bulkeley.

Julia Reilly states, that she is an Irishwoman. That she had two children, a boy and girl; the girl is dead, the boy is living in Staleybridge. Has resided in Ashton-under-Lyne and Staleybridge 17 or 18 years; at first lived in lodgings, but subsequently, together with her mother and sister, took a house in Waterloo, Ashton-under-Lyne, in which she lived six years. She afterwards removed to Castle-street, Staleybridge, where she resided eight years. Previous to her confinement, she applied for relief at the workhouse at Ashton-under-Lyne, which

which she obtained. Was in the workhouse, and also was relieved at different periods. Had a sore breast, and applied for relief; was sent to the workhouse, where she remained 12 days, and was sent over to Ireland. Was taken before the magistrates, and induced to sign a paper, on being told that she would not be sent to Ireland. Heard this paper read, but there was a noise at the time.

On the 4th July, the Commissioners transmit to the Poor Law Board Captain Huband's report, together with the above depositions. Captain Huband in his report states that he considers John Clynes to have been legally removed. Mary Anne Hanley's case he deems a hardship; remarks discrepancies in her statements, but nevertheless believes her story.

On the 27th July, the Poor Law Board communicate with the Commissioners, and inform them that they had inquired into the case of Eliza Daveridge, and that Mr. Gulson, who conducted the inquiry, states that he examined Eliza Daveridge, and that she has made false statements. It seems that she proceeded to Dublin entirely of her own accord, having followed a drummer in the 75th regiment. Upon arriving in Dublin, she discovered this man was ordered away, and she was obliged to work, until, becoming unwell, she went into the workhouse.

On the 5th August, the Commissioners send Mr. Gulson's report to the guardians.

No further correspondence appears in this case.

No. 56. Dublin (North) Union.

Andrew M'Donagh, being duly sworn, states that he received an injury in York, in consequence of which he was compelled to apply for relief. Obtained out-door relief for one month, and was taken into the workhouse, where he remained till brought before the magistrates. Had resided in York since 1842, and lived in the same house all the time he resided there, for which he paid rent. He further states that he was born in the county Meath (Ireland), which he left in 1812. Will swear that the entire time he obtained relief in York did not exceed two years. Was suffering from the effects of his injury when removed, and is still.

The above case of removal was laid before the Commissioners on the 6th December 1849, by Captain Lindsay. On the 11th, Mr. Crawford, Poor Law Inspector, writes for more information relative to M'Donagh, in order that the Commissioners may be enabled to judge of the success of an appeal, should one be made; and on the 15th December, the Commissioners direct Mr. Crawford to take the deposition of M'Donagh. On the same date they inform Captain Lindsay of the steps they had taken. Mr. Crawford transmits his report, together with deposition, on the 17th December. On the 19th, the Commissioners communicate with Captain Lindsay, and say that they consider that M'Donagh did not obtain a settlement in York, but that they think the guardians might successfully appeal.

On the 20th December, the Commissioners transmit to the Poor Law Board, London, correspondence with Captain Lindsay relative to the removal of M'Donagh, and state that they consider the case a hardship, and wish to draw the attention of the Board thereto.

An appeal was decided upon in this case, which, however, failed in consequence of delay.

No. 57. Dublin (North) Union.

Michael Dolan, was admitted to the workhouse on the 20th February 1850; has been a resident in St. Luke's parish, London, for the last 20 years, and was receiving relief for some time; this case is referred to the Commissioners; the Commissioners write for particulars as to Dolan's case. On the 6th March, Captain Lindsay directed to furnish particulars. No further correspondence appears relative to this case.

No. 58. Dublin (North) Union.

William Byrne, sent from Lambeth, states, that he was sent over on the evidence of his step-mother, and his father went to China. The attention of the Commissioners is called to this case. The Commissioners write to the guardians on the 15th October 1850, and state that, as the only objection made to the legality of removal in this case, is the fact of the informations on which the order of removal was made, were sworn by the stepmother of William Byrne, who is a child, and, as his father is presumed still to be living, they do not see that there are grounds for an appeal.

No. 59. Dublin (North) Union.

John Burgess states, that he was born in Dublin, which he left when six months old; that he has lived 17 ½ years in Barony parish (Glasgow), that he obtained relief, was in the workhouse for some time, when he was placed on board a steamer without proper means of subsistence, and removed to Belfast, and told that from thence he should make the best of his way to Dublin; that he begged his way to Dublin and there went into the workhouse.

The attention of the Commissioners is called to this case on the 6th August 1851, and on the 12th instant the Commissioners reply and state that they had directed inquiry to be made as to the removal of John Burgess, and they direct Mr. Crawford to hold such inquiry.

On the 29th August, the Commissioners communicate with the Board of Supervision, Scotland, and request them to cause inquiry to be made into the truth of the statement made by John Burgess. On the 29th September the Board of Supervision reply that inquiry had been made, and that John Burgess had made false statements; they likewise transmit documents and depositions made by John Burgess and Alexander Baird (Assistant Inspector) to the following effect: Alexander Baird states that he removed to Ireland, under

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magistrates' warrant, John Burgess with others; that he placed him on board a steamer going to Belfast, and that he gave food as much as necessary, that he delivered over to the authorities in the Belfast workhouse. John Burgess, in deposition made by him previous to his removal from Scotland, states that he was born in Dublin, came to England, where he lived 18 years, and that he removed from thence to Scotland 17 years ago; on coming to Scotland that he resided in several parishes in the city of Glasgow, the longest period he resided in any one place being four years; that he obtained parochial relief.

On the 19th September the Commissioners inform the guardians that they had heard from the Board of Supervision, which communication they transmit, and that judging from the facts of the case, they consider that John Burgess did not obtain a settlement under the Scotch Act, not having resided continuously five years in the same parish without obtaining relief.

No. 60. Dublin (North) Union.

William Holland, Honor Cusack, John Daly.

William Holland, 76 years of age, states that he was born in Cork, where he lived till 26 years old; left Cork and came to Dublin; remained six months; after leaving Dublin, worked in different parts of England, Ireland and Scotland; never stopped two years in any one place; came to Birmingham and was taken to the workhouse, being found in a state of destitution; was placed on a steamer in Liverpool, and did not know that he was going to Dublin till on board; in his examination previous to his removal to Ireland, does not recollect telling the magistrates that he ever was in Dublin.

Honor Cusack, 26 years of age, states, that she was born near Westport (Mayo); lived there till four years old, when she came to Birmingham, where she has since lived; got relief last April, and afterwards was taken into the workhouse; was taken before magistrates and sworn as to the place of her birth (Mayo); was placed in a steamer with a man named William Holland and sent to Dublin.

John Daly states, that he is a native of the parish of Clonfacle (Tyrone); left it about eight years since and came to England, where he was a travelling pedler, without any fixed residence; that he came to Bristol and applied for relief, and the guardians of the union at which he applied (the Mint) resolved on sending him to Ireland; got his choice of being sent either to Cork or Dublin; accepted passage to Dublin, being destitute and refused relief.

The attention of the Commissioners is called to the above cases of removal on the 12th June 1851, complaint being made, that the paupers removed were not sent to their proper places of settlement. On 17th June, the Commissioners inform the guardians that they will institute an inquiry, and on the 19th instruct Mr. Crawford, their Inspector, to that effect.

Mr. Crawford communicates with the Commissioners on the 23d June, in which he says that he considers Holland to have been improperly sent to Dublin, and that Cork was the proper place; as to Honor Cusack he observes, that Dublin does not seem to be an improper place to send her to, as it may be considered the nearest port mentioned in the schedule to her place of birth, and it appears in the case of John Daly no order of removal was issued. The Commissioners inform the guardians, on the 28th June, that they have received report and depositions relative to the removal of the above paupers, and also say they are in communication with the English Poor Law Board on the same subject; they (the Commissioners) write to the Poor Law Board, London, on the 28th instant, in which they observe that they consider the removal of these paupers irregular, and the Poor Law Board in their reply enclose statements received from the guardians (Birmingham), from which it would appear that these paupers were irregularly removed, but that William Holland and Honor Cusack were sent to Dublin at their own request. Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the guardians, dated 6th August, transmitting communications received from the guardians at Birmingham, and stating that they consider there are grounds for an appeal in this case; on the above date the Commissioners address the Poor Law Board, London, and say they await information as to the case of John Daly. Letter from the Poor Law Board, London, dated 26th August, to the Commissioners, enclosing papers received relative to John Daly; on the 30th August the Commissioners transmit the above correspondence to the guardians. No further correspondence appears as to this case.

No. 61. Dublin (North) Union.

Catherine Conolly and Elizabeth Green.—Extract from the minutes of proceedings of the Board of Guardians, dated 8th October 1851, calling the attention of the Commissioners to a letter they had received, in which it was stated that Catherine Conolly, widow, and three children, were sent over by the guardians of the poor from Golden-lane, parish of St. Luke's, London, after residing 12 years therein, and that her husband was an Englishman. That she was never taken before a magistrate previous to her removal. That she received 3*s.* and three loaves of bread per week from the above parish. That she was placed in a cab and conveyed away, and would not be permitted to return to her residence in order to dispose of her furniture. In the same letter it is stated that Elizabeth Green, a widow, was sent over by the guardians from Greenwich, after a residence of 10 years in Leeche's-lane, in the same place. The Commissioners inform the guardians, on the 14th October, that they will institute an inquiry into the above cases, and instruct Mr. Crawford to hold such inquiry. Mr. Crawford sends in his report, dated 17th October, together with depositions. He remarks, that

at the depositions furnish grounds for further inquiry, as the parties removed resided in e parishes from which they were removed for a longer period than five years, exclusive of e time they obtained relief. Catherine Conolly stated before Mr. Crawford that she did ot know where she was born. Was brought up in the west of Ireland; lived in different laces there. Left Ireland 19 years ago, and came to London, where she first lodged nine onths in Camden-court, Milton-street, City-road, in the parish of St. Luke's. After that ent into service in the same parish; remained there 15 months, and removed to Clerken-ell, where she remained nine months. After that returned to the parish of St. Luke's, in umerous parts of which, and for various periods, making in all 15½ years (which places and eriods she relates), she states that she lived. She says that she is not married, but has three ildren, all born in the parish of St. Luke's. First, was relieved where she resided, in ames'-place, about three years ago, and she continued to receive it up to within one fort-ght of her removal. Her allowance was stopped, and she was brought to the Board-room swear, which she declined to do, as she would not be informed what it was for. She told e clerk that she had witnesses who could prove her residence within the parish, which he fused to send for. She was directed to come to the workhouse; after which she was taken Wapping, and kept there for a few days, when she and her children were put on board a eamer and sent to Dublin.

Elizabeth Green, being duly sworn, stated before Mr. Crawford that she was born in ublin, but left it when 18 years of age, and came to London, where she first lived Holborn; afterwards removed to Blackwall, and from thence to Greenwich, where e has lived for the last 10 years in the same parish; was married in 1835, and her husband, ho was a sailor, died in the College. Was first relieved about three months before the eath of her husband, and has been relieved from time to time up to her removal; was rdered to the workhouse, where she remained two nights, and was placed on board a eamer and sent to Dublin; did not make an affidavit previous to her removal, and was sked to sign a paper, which she refused to do.

Letter from the Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, dated 23d October, nclosing above depositions, and requesting an inquiry into the cases. The Board in ondon reply on the 23d December, and inform the Commissioners that they have been communication with parish authorities of St. Luke's, and they transmit the correspondence ith them, together with copy of the warrant under which Catherine Conolly was removed. opies of correspondence between the Poor Law Board and the guardians of the parish of t. Luke's, in which the latter deny that Catherine Conolly came into that parish 19 years go, but that she was removed to Ireland under justices' warrant. Letter from the Com-issioners to guardians, dated 31st December, informing them that they had been in ommunication with the English Poor Law Board, and laying correspondence with them efore the Commissioners; they remark, that as the guardians of the parish of St. Luke's ake a statement that Catherine Conolly went into service, that it raises a doubt as to hether she was legally removed. The Commissioners also state, with regard to Elizabeth reen, that as her removal did not take place under 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, the guardians would ave no remedy in case they appeal.

Further letter from the Poor Law Board, London, dated 23d December, to the Com-issioners, transmitting correspondence with the guardians at Greenwich, relative to the emoval of Elizabeth Green; they also inform the guardians that the poor law authorities t Greenwich admit irregularities as to the transmission of this woman, and that the Board London warned the said authorities at Greenwich against such irregularities in uture.

Letter from the Guardians at Greenwich, dated 6th November, to the Board in London, nclosed to the Commissioners, stating that when they directed the removal of Elizabeth reen, they did so in ignorance of the statement made by Elizabeth Green, that her usband had died within the previous year. The Board in London also enclose copy of tter from them to the guardians at Greenwich, inquiring whether any warrant of emoval was obtained in the case of Elizabeth Green; and also copy of reply, in which e guardians at Greenwich state that no warrant for removal was obtained in the case of lizabeth Green.

The Commissioners inform the Board in London on the 31st December that they are in ommunication with the guardians of the North Dublin Union, relative to the removals question.

No further correspondence appears in the cases of Catherine Conolly and Elizabeth reen.

No. 62. Dublin (North) Union.

Bridget Joyce, Mary Browne.—Extract from Minutes of Board of Guardians on 11th May 852, relative to the case of Bridget Joyce and her four children, transmitted from Liver-ool; also Mary Browne, from Glasgow.

Copy of report of William Donaldson, relieving officer, on the case of Bridget Joyce and Mary Browne, dated 11th February 1852.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 18th February 852, stating that they will instruct their inspector to inquire and report as to the circum-tances attending the removal of Bridget Joyce and her children. With regard to the case f Mary Browne, there does not appear any ground for disputing the legality of the course dopted by the authorities of Glasgow in this case.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to C. S. Crawford, Esq., Poor Law Inspector, dated

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dated 11th February 1852, forwarding copy of the resolutions of the Board of Guardians, together with report of the railway officer on the case of Bridget Joyce, and directing him to make inquiry, and report.

Report from C. S. Crawford, Esq., Poor Law Inspector, enclosing depositions of Bridget Joyce, relative to her removal from England, dated 23d June 1852.

Bridget Joyce, being duly sworn, deposeth, that she was born near Tuam, in the county of Galway; was married about 14 years ago to a man of the name of Daniel Concannon, and had three children by that marriage, viz., Thomas, aged 11 years; Bridget, aged nine; and Margaret, aged four. Concannon died upwards of three years ago, in the county of Galway. Deponent, about two years ago, was again married to a person named Michael Joyce, and has had by that marriage a child named Michael, aged five months. About the month of May last, deponent, with her husband and children, left Galway, and proceeded to Warrington, in Lancashire, in England, where she continued to reside up to the period of her removal; lodged in several houses during that time; about a fortnight before last Christmas went to lodge in the house of a woman named Catherine Henahan, at Friar's Green, where her husband resided with her. About the 14th January last, her daughter Bridget became sick, and the woman in whose house she lodged, thinking it was a case of fever, would not permit the child to remain longer in the house; went in consequence to the workhouse, and saw Mr. Worthington, the relieving officer; told him she wanted to get her child, who was sick, into the workhouse. Mr. Worthington made inquiries relative to her and the rest of the family; told him, in reply to his inquiries, that her husband was engaged in breaking stones about two miles and a half away from the town, but that he came home to sleep every night. Mr. Worthington told deponent that he with the rest of her children must come into the workhouse, or the child who was sick could not be admitted; this conversation took place in the evening, and on the following day deponent, with all her children, went to the workhouse, where they were admitted. The girl who was sick was sent to the hospital; after being about six days in the workhouse, the matron told her that her child was about to be discharged from the hospital, and inquired whether deponent was then going out; told the matron she thought it too soon to take the child out, as she feared the child would not be admitted to any house so soon after being in fever. This conversation occurred on a Saturday, and on the Monday or the Sunday week following deponent was taken into Warrington, for the purpose of making an affidavit, which she did; was left in the workhouse for a week afterwards, until Tuesday, 27th January, when she was sent to Liverpool, and placed on board a vessel sailing for Dublin, where she landed on Wednesday, 28th January, and was admitted with all her children into the North Dublin Union Workhouse on the same day, where she has since remained. Deponent's husband was aware that she was going into Warrington Workhouse, but did not come to visit her during the time she remained there. Mr. Worthington did not require her husband to come into the workhouse with her.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, dated 3d March 1852, enclosing report and depositions of Bridget Joyce, and requesting the Poor Law Board to have inquiry made of the Poor Law authorities at Warrington, in regard to the circumstances under which this woman and her children were removed to Dublin.

Letter from the Poor Law Board, London, dated 8th March 1852, stating their determination to make inquiry into the circumstances of the case.

Further letter from the Poor Law Board, London, enclosing copy of correspondence relating to the case of Bridget Joyce, dated 19th April 1852.

Letter from the clerk to the Board of Guardians of Warrington Union, with a copy of the report of Mr. Worthington, the relieving officer of Warrington, dated 16th March 1852.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 28th April 1852, transmitting a copy of the deposition of Bridget Joyce, and copies of the communications addressed to the Poor Law Board, England, and stating that it appears to the Commissioners, from the information furnished, that there are not any grounds for appeal on the part of the Board of Guardians in the case; the only irregularity appearing in the case is, that Bridget Joyce was removed while her husband remained at Warrington.

No. 63. Dublin (North) Union.

Catherine Davis.—Extract from the minutes of guardians, dated 28th April 1852, referring to the Commissioners the case of removal of Catherine Davis, a widow, aged 60, who was passed from London by the Poor Law authorities, having resided there for 40 years, 13 of which she lived in No. 10, Holland-street, Blackfriars-road, parish of Christchurch.

Letter from the Commissioners, dated 4th May 1852, to the Board of Guardians, informing them that they will instruct Mr. Crawford, their inspector, to inquire into the above case; and on the same date write to Mr. Crawford, telling him to hold such inquiry.

Mr. Crawford sends in his report, dated 8th May 1852, in which he says that in his opinion there are not sufficient grounds for an appeal in the case of Catherine Davis, as from her deposition she does not appear ever to have gained a settlement in any parish in England.

Catherine Davis, being duly sworn, deposeth that she was born in Dublin, which she left when about 21 years of age, and then went to reside in London, where she continued up to the time of her removal. She lived in several places in London, but about 10 years ago went to reside in the house of Mrs. Sullivan, No. 10, Holland-street, Blackfriars, in the parish of Christchurch; continued to live with Mrs. Sullivan until about the end of 1849, when,

when, having broken her thigh, she was taken into St. Thomas's Hospital, Southwark. On coming out from thence, she went into Christchurch workhouse, where she remained three months, and after that returned to the house of Mrs. Sullivan, where she resided till the month of July last, when she again entered the workhouse; remained there until the month of September, when, upon making application for out-door relief, the guardians said "she did not belong to them, and that she should go to her own place." Refused to go to Dublin, and returned to the house of Mrs. Sullivan, where she stayed till about six weeks ago, when she met with another accident. After meeting with this accident, lodgings were procured for her in the house of Mrs. Grogan, Gravel-lane, Ewer-street; remained there a week or 10 days, when she was again admitted into the Christchurch workhouse, and was sent off to Ireland. Mrs. Grogan's house is not in the parish of Christchurch, but that of St. Saviour's. Deponent had been in the workhouse twice previous to having her thigh broken; had been receiving a loaf of bread from the churchwardens of the parish weekly for the last five years, not paid for out of the poor-rates.

Letter from the Commissioners, dated 18th May 1852, to the guardians, informing them that from the deposition of Catherine Davis they consider the guardians could not successfully appeal in her case, as it appears she had only been residing in the parish of St. Saviour for a period of a week or 10 days previous to her removal.

No. 64. Dublin (North) Union.

Catherine Atkins and Theresa M'Loughland.—Extract from the minutes of guardians, dated 19th May 1852, referring to the Commissioners the report of Mr. Donaldson, relieving officer, who states that Catherine Atkins was sent from Wolverhampton to Dublin, and that she is a native of Cork; also that Theresa M'Loughland and four children were sent from Staleybridge after a residence of 15 years. She had employment, but her children becoming sick she applied for relief, and that she was taken into custody and sent to Liverpool, not even allowed to dispose of her furniture.

Letter from the Commissioners to the guardians, dated 19th May 1852, informing them that they will instruct Mr. Crawford to inquire into the above cases; and on the 26th May the Commissioners instructed Mr. Crawford to that effect.

Report from Mr. Crawford, dated 1st June 1852, in which he states that if the deposition of Catherine Atkins is correct, that undoubtedly Cork and not Dublin was the proper place to send her to; and as to Theresa M'Loughland her removal seems illegal, if what she has stated be true.

Catherine Atkins being sworn, deposeth that she was born in the city of Cork; lived there till four years ago, when she went to Wolverhampton. Has lived in the latter place, or Godsall, for four years. Was an inmate of the workhouse for some time about two years; was again admitted, and after being there about a month the master came to her, and asked her if she had any children in the house, for that they were passing the Irish poor to Ireland, and that she must go along with them. Was taken before a magistrate and swore an affidavit; told the magistrate that she was born in the city of Cork. Was sent off along with 12 others to Liverpool, and was put on board a vessel sailing for Dublin; was never told what part of Ireland she was going to, but thought she was being sent to Cork.

Theresa M'Loughland, being duly sworn, states she was born in Longford (Ireland); is married, and her husband went to America. Has lived continuously at Staleybridge for 10 years with her husband, and two years previous to her marriage. Lived in several houses during this period, all in the Dukinfield district. Whilst her husband was with her she lived for several years in the same house; but since he left has lived in many houses. Applied for relief about a month ago, when she and her family were admitted into the workhouse; was taken before two magistrates and made an affidavit. Stated to the magistrate that she had been living in Dukinfield district 15 years; was taken back to the workhouse, and sent to Liverpool, from whence she was sent to Dublin.

Letter from the Commissioners, dated 10th June 1852, to the Poor Law Board, London, transmitting the above depositions, and stating that they consider that Catherine Atkins was improperly sent to Dublin instead of Cork; and with regard to Theresa M'Loughland, that she seems to have been illegally removed, as it would appear, from her statement, that she had acquired a settlement in the Dukinfield district. On the 21st June the Board in London reply, and state that they will cause inquiry into the cases of Catherine Atkins and Theresa M'Loughland.

Letter from the Poor Law Board, London, dated 26th June 1852, enclosing copy of communication received from the guardians at Wolverhampton, in which it is stated that Catherine Atkins was sent to Dublin at her own request, as she said there was a clergyman there whom she knew, and that he would assist her in distress; and that attention was paid to her comfort on the passage.

Letter from the Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 6th July 1852, transmitting Mr. Crawford's report, and informing them that they do not apprehend an appeal would prove successful in the case of Catherine Atkins, owing to the conflicting statements made by her and Mr. Chapman, relieving officer at Wolverhampton.

The Poor Law Board, London, communicate with the Commissioners on the 3d July, and transmit copy of letter received from the guardians at Ashton-under-Lyne respecting the case of Theresa M'Loughland, from which it appears that the said Theresa M'Loughland has made false statements, as she had only been resident in the Dukinfield district for two

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weeks previous to her removal, and that before that she had lived in Stoney Brow, in the parish of Ashton-under-Lyne. It is also stated by the guardians at Ashton-under-Lyne that even had her statement been correct as to her length of residence in the Dukinfield district, that they would have ordered her removal just the same as they should in an English case, where the head of the family is beyond the seas.

The Commissioners write to the guardians on the 9th July, and inform them that they had been in communication with the guardians at Ashton-under-Lyne, and that, from the statements received from them, they do not consider an appeal would be attended with any success in the case of Theresa M'Loughland.

No. 65. Dublin (North) Union.

Catherine Casey.—Extract from minutes of guardians, dated 15th December 1852, referring to the Commissioners the report of Mr. Donaldson, relieving officer, who states that Catherine Casey was transmitted from Stockport to Dublin, although a native of Drogheda. Her husband was born at Stockport, and went to the country for employment; that she made application for relief, and that she was sent to Dublin. The guardians wish to be informed as to whether the woman should have been sent from England at all; and if so, was not Drogheda the proper place to have sent her to. The Commissioners reply, on the 23d December, to the guardians, and in answer to their questions state, that as Catherine Casey was left in a destitute state at Stockport by her husband, such an act on his part amounted to desertion, and in such case that the English Poor Law authorities were not precluded from removing the wife without the husband. In reference to her being sent to Dublin instead of Drogheda, they say that Drogheda is not one of the ports included in schedule of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, which requires that the party removed must be sent to one of the ports therein mentioned. They also state that they do not consider that there is sufficient reason for further inquiry in this case.

No. 66. Dublin (North) Union.

Michael Flynn.—Extract from minutes of guardians, dated 18th May 1853, directing the attention of the Commissioners to the removal of Michael Flynn from Liverpool after a residence there of 30 years, and for the last 10 years in the same house. The Commissioners reply on 30th May, and tell the guardians that they have instituted an inquiry into the above case of removal.

Letter from the Commissioners to Mr. Crawford, dated 28th May 1853, instructing him to hold this inquiry. On the 31st May, Mr. Crawford writes to the Commissioners, and says that he has been to the workhouse, and on asking for Flynn he was informed that he had taken his discharge, and that nothing was since known of him.

The Commissioners communicate with the guardians on the 4th June 1853; make known to them the information they received from Mr. Crawford.

No. 67. Dublin (North) Union.

John Moore.—Extract from the minutes of guardians, calling the attention of the Commissioners to report of Dr. Kirkpatrick, in which it is stated that John Moore, deceased, was transmitted from Liverpool after a residence there of 16 years; that this said John Moore died of erysipelas and mortification of the lower limbs; that he had disease of the liver, and dropsy; that he had been an inmate of the Brownlow workhouse, Liverpool, from the hospital of which he was removed contrary to his inclination, and sent to Dublin on the open deck of a steamer, to which circumstance he attributes the latter symptoms.

Letter from the Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, dated 8th October 1853, enclosing the above extract. The Board in London reply on 2d November, and enclose copy of letter received from the select vestry at Liverpool relative to John Moore.

Letter from the Commissioners to the guardians, dated 12th November, informing them that they have been in communication with the Poor Law Board in London, relative to the removal of John Moore, and transmitting copy of papers received from them.

No. 68. Dublin (North) Union.

Margaret Callaghan.—Extract from minutes of guardians, dated 26th October 1853, directing the attention of the Commissioners to report of Mr. Donaldson, relieving officer, in which it is stated that Margaret Callaghan and five children were transmitted from St. Margaret's Workhouse, Westminster, after a residence in London of 32 years, and the last nine years in the same house; all her children were born in the above-mentioned union; that her husband went to America, and she became destitute, and made application for relief, which she received for 10 weeks, and was then ordered into the workhouse with her family; from whence she was conducted by the police on board a steamer going to Dublin, without ever being brought before a magistrate, or permitted to dispose of her furniture.

Letter from the Commissioners to the guardians, dated 1st November 1853, stating that they do not deem inquiry necessary into the above case; the fact of Margaret Callaghan being deserted by her husband rendered her liable to be removed.

No. 69. Dublin (South) Union.

Mary Mitchell.—Letter from the clerk of the union, dated 30th November 1850, to guardians, in which it is stated that Mary Mitchell, cotton-spinner, born in the parish of Killishea, county Longford, went to Manchester 29 years ago; remained in one parish there till the 15th May 1849, when she was sent to Ireland by the Poor Law authorities; but that she made her escape from the steamer in Liverpool and returned to Manchester, when she was brought before the authorities and sentenced to one month's imprisonment. She remained in Manchester till the 16th instant, when she was sent to Dublin contrary to her consent.

The attention of the Commissioners being called to the above letter by the guardians, they reply on the 5th December 1850, and say they consider there is not any ground for an appeal against the removal of this pauper from England, as the poor removal, which took place in May 1849, prevents the party from coming under the operation of 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66, which enacts that no party shall be removed who shall have resided in any parish for five years next before the application for the warrant of removal; they also state that the legality of the former removal cannot now be disputed, no appeal having been entered against the same within the time prescribed by law.

No. 70. Dublin (South) Union.

Bridget Farrell.—Extract from minutes of guardians, dated 6th February 1851, calling the attention of the Commissioners to the case of Bridget Farrell, who appears to have been illegally transmitted from England, where she resided 30 years; in the first instance to Cork, and from thence to Dublin.

Letter from the Commissioners in reply, dated 13th February 1851, saying that they will instruct their inspector to inquire in this case, and on the same date write to Mr. Crawford to hold such inquiry.

Mr. Crawford sends in his report, dated 17th February 1851, in which he says that the removal of Bridget Farrell from England appears illegal from her deposition; but that no blame attaches to the authorities in Cork for her being sent to Dublin, as she was forwarded there by the party who had charge of her from England.

Bridget Farrell, being duly sworn, deposes that she is nearly 80 years of age; that she was born in Ballymore, in the county Leitrim, and was married, when 16 or 17 years old, to a soldier in Roscrea; her husband came to England about four years previous to the battle of Waterloo; that she followed him over about five years afterwards, and they went to reside in the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn, London; they lived there for seven years, and then went to Clerkenwell parish, in which she has lived for the last 30 years; she lived the first 10 years of this period close by Battle-bridge, King's Cross, and the next 20, at Pentonville Grove; both places are situate in the parish of Clerkenwell. Her husband first obtained relief about three years ago, and remained in the workhouse from time to time, till he died. Deponent did not enter the workhouse till about 11 months after her husband, and was occasionally in and out of it during her husband's stay. About a fortnight after the death of deponent's husband she was taken to St. Martin's-le-Grand, where she was sworn to her birthplace; was then taken to Wapping, and kept there four days, awaiting the sailing of a vessel, on board of which she was placed, and conveyed to Cork; a man was sent in charge of her and six others; on her arrival at Cork she was left there two days, whilst the man who accompanied them proceeded to Limerick with some of the party; on his returning to Cork, he gave orders to have deponent and another woman forwarded to Dublin, which was done; made no application to the Poor Law authorities in Cork for relief; arrived in Dublin 22d January, and was admitted into the workhouse.

Letter from the Commissioners to the guardians, dated 24th February 1851, stating that they had received Mr. Crawford's report, together with the depositions made by Bridget Farrell, and informing the guardians that if they are desirous of appealing in this case, that they must communicate with the Board in London to that effect; they also say that no blame attaches to the authorities in Cork for the transmission of this woman to Dublin.

No. 71. Dublin (South) Union.

Catherine Murphy.—Extract from the minutes of guardians, 13th February 1851, directing the special attention of the Commissioners to the case of a woman named Catherine Murphy, who appears to them to have been cruelly and illegally by force torn from her husband, and another child, and sent from Wolverhampton to Dublin, her husband not being aware of her transmission. The Commissioners write to the guardians in reply on the 20th February, and say they will instruct their inspector, Mr. Crawford, to inquire into the case; and they do so accordingly, on the 21st February.

Letter from the clerk to the guardians, dated 17th February, enclosing deposition of Catherine Murphy.

Report from Mr. Crawford, dated 1st March 1851, in which he encloses the deposition of Catherine Murphy. In his report, he says it appears to him the only points to be considered are, firstly, as to the legality of the removal of the woman without her husband; and, secondly, whether the warrant of removal remained operative, although the party had ceased to receive relief.

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Catherine Murphy, being duly sworn, states that she was born in Dublin, and is above 22 years old. Was married in July 1845 to William Murphy; went to England in 1846. First went to Derby, where they remained two years, and then went to Wolverhampton, where they have resided since that period, with the exception of three months, at the time of the cholera, in 1849. Her husband, herself, and children began to be relieved about a month before Christmas last; out-door relief was continued to them more than two months, when they were ordered to the workhouse, in order to be sent to Ireland. On receiving the order, did not go to the workhouse, but left Wolverhampton along with her husband, and returned in less than a month. About three weeks after her return, she went to the relieving officer to ask for medical assistance for a woman living in the same house with her; saw Mr. Gladsly, who told her to sit down. After remaining about three quarters of an hour, was taken to the railway station, and there was informed that she was about to be sent to Ireland. Her son John, an infant, was sent with her; her husband and another child were left behind. Was not permitted to communicate with her husband before leaving, although he was in Wolverhampton at the time. Objected to being sent to Ireland; but the party having charge of her said that the guardians had ordered both her and her husband over.

Letter from the Commissioners to the guardians, dated 7th March 1851, saying that they had received a report from Mr. Crawford, relative to the removal of Catherine Murphy, together with her deposition, copies of which they enclose, and that they had laid the case before the Board in London.

Letter from the Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, dated 6th March 1851, transmitting Mr. Crawford's Report, and requesting them to inquire into the case.

Reply of the Board in London, dated 19th March 1851, laying communication received relative to the removal of Catherine Murphy from the Wolverhampton guardians before the Commissioners, in which they state that she has made false statements. Mr. Crawford informs the Commissioners, on the 22d March, that he finds that Catherine Murphy has taken her discharge from the workhouse.

Letter from the Commissioners to the guardians, dated 29th March, stating what Mr. Crawford had written to them, and that consequently no further steps could be taken in this case.

Letter from the Commissioners to the Board in London, of the above date, and to the above effect.

No. 72. Dublin (South) Union.

Margaret Major.—Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians on 5th August 1852, on the case of Margaret Major.

The case is this: A woman named Margaret Major, aged 39 years, left this country when only six years of age, and went to England, where she married a man named Robert Major, an Englishman, with whom she lived in England from the time of their marriage (which took place in the year 1832), till the time of his death, and by whom she had many children (all born in England).

Her husband died in London, a little more than two years and a half ago, leaving his wife and five children (the eldest under 13 years of age), totally destitute; during that two years and a half herself and children were maintained by the Strand Union in London, the officers of which obliged her upon three several occasions to appear before the magistrates of Westminster Head Court, with a view to her being sent with her children to Ireland.

On the first occasion the bench of magistrates, when they heard the case on oath, decided that it would be unjust to send her out of the country, and testified their sympathy in her distress by subscribing 6*s.* 6*d.* for her immediate relief. The officers of the same union, not satisfied with the decision, after some time brought her again before the magistrate of Bow-street; when he understood that she was examined before on oath, he dismissed the appeal. They, however, made a third attempt, and obliged her to appear again at Westminster Head Court, before another magistrate; and when she was sworn and asked whether she was a native of Ireland, and having answered in the affirmative, without any further inquiry she was ordered to be sent back to Ireland, thus removing from the country where she had lived for the last 33 years of her life, expatriating her children, expelling them from the land of their father's nativity, and obliging them to seek refuge in the workhouse of the South Dublin Union, where they are now pauper inmates.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 12th August 1852, stating that it does not appear, from the statement of the relieving officer, that this woman was illegally removed, or was the removal effected in violation of the provisions of the statute 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66, which render a party irremovable who had resided in any one district or parish in England for an uninterrupted period of five years previously to the application for relief.

Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians, dated 19th August 1852, containing further report of relieving officer, to the effect that, upon further inquiry, he was informed that this woman and her husband lived for a period of about 12 years continuously previous to the application for relief in the parish of St. Anne's, London: they occupied the house, No. 4, Sutton-street, Soho, London, for which they paid 40*l.* per annum (including taxes); they, however, afterwards went to Liverpool, where they resided about nine months; they

they also spent some short time in the parish of St. James's, London, and then returned to their former parish, St. Anne's, from which the widow and children were sent to Liverpool.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 23d August 1852, stating that they do not think it necessary to direct an inquiry, upon the ground that Margaret Major had resided continuously for the five years in St. Anne's parish, or any other parish or district of London, immediately preceding her application for relief.

No. 73. Dublin (South) Union.

Patrick Gorme and Julia Wallace.—Extract from Minutes of Board of Guardians, dated 2d September 1852, enclosing report from relieving officer, of two cases sent from England by the Poor Law authorities of Leeds.

Patrick Gorme states, that he went to Leeds from Dublin 24 years ago; that he resided in the parish of Leeds since, with the exception of 18 months, having come to Ireland for that period seven years since, but during his absence he rented a cottage and left his family there; that he had been 12 years in the parish immediately before he applied for parochial relief, and that it is five years and a half since he returned from Ireland.

That on Friday night the 20th instant, between 12 and one o'clock, a parish officer and seven policemen entered his cottage, and said he should go to Ireland; that he remonstrated with them, and stated that neither he nor his family would again require relief, as he got employment the Tuesday before, and between himself and wife, they were earning 17*s.* per week; that notwithstanding, they took the children out of their beds, forced the whole family from the cottage without the greater part of their clothes, and brought them to the vagrant office for the remainder of the night, and the next morning had them conveyed to Liverpool, where they were put on board a steamer, and arrived in Dublin on Sunday morning, the 22d instant.

Patrick Gorme further states, that there were 6*s.* due to him by his employer, and that, could he get back to Leeds, he is confident that he and his wife would be reinstated in their employment.

Julia Wallace states that her husband, John Wallace, resided between six and seven years last past in the parish of Leeds, occupying the same cottage during that period; that she was married to him four years ago; that her husband left Leeds for America the 21st ultimo; that shortly after her children became ill, and she applied to the parish for medical aid for them; this was refused, but they allowed her 3*s.* a week for two weeks, to procure medical relief. That on Friday the 20th instant, between nine and ten o'clock at night, four men entered her residence, and said she should go to Ireland; she remonstrated, stating that her children were born in the parish, and that she never applied for relief for herself; she refused to go. They took out handcuffs, took the children out of bed, and one of the men dragged her by the hair out of the cottage, leaving many of her children behind, besides a new dress she was making for a person, who was to pay her 2*s.* 6*d.* She was taken to the vagrant house for the remainder of the night, and the next day sent to Liverpool, and arrived in Dublin on the 22d instant.

Julia Wallace further states, that if again back in Leeds she could well support herself and family.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 8th September 1852, stating that they will cause inquiry to be made into the cases of Patrick Gorme and Julia Wallace.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to C. J. Crawford, esq., poor-law inspector, dated 10th September 1852, directing him to inquire into the circumstances attending the removal of these persons from Leeds.

Report from C. J. Crawford, esq., poor-law inspector, dated 17th September 1852, on the cases of Patrick Gorme and Julia Wallace.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 28th September 1852, stating that Patrick Gorme's case does not come within the provisions of the first section of 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66, as, after his return from Ireland, he had not been a period of five years resident in the parish, exclusive of the time during which he was in receipt of relief; and as he does not appear to have obtained a settlement by renting a house valued at 10*l.*, the Commissioners are of opinion that there are not grounds to question the legality of his removal, together with that of his family, who were dependent on him. With regard to Julia Wallace, she had taken her discharge from the workhouse.

No. 74. Dublin (South) Union.

Thomas Linihan.—Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians, dated 15th December 1853, being report of relieving officer Jones on the case of Thomas Linihan, sent from England by the poor-law authorities.

Linihan states that he was born in the parish of Eccleshall, within two miles of Sheffield, where he lived till he was nine years old, when his parents died; that about a year after he was apprenticed to Thomas Jones, a blacksmith in Sheffield, whom he served five years; that he remained in Sheffield working for different persons till he was 20 years of age; that he had been working in other parts of England the last two years; that he returned to Sheffield in bad health, when he had to apply to the parish for medical relief. He was hurried off to Liverpool with other Irish paupers, and sent to Dublin; that he had never been out of England till forced to leave on Thursday against his will, by the poor-law authorities of Sheffield.

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Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 20th December 1853, stating their intention of making inquiry into the facts of the case.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to C. J. Crawford, Esq., Poor Law Inspector, dated 20th December 1853, directing him to examine Thomas Linihan on oath, and make inquiry into the facts of the case.

Report from C. J. Crawford, Esq., Poor Law Inspector, dated 23d December 1853, stating that Linihan had been discharged on out-door relief, and had sailed for Liverpool, for the purpose of returning to England.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 28th December 1853, stating their inability to take any further steps with advantage in the matter.

No. 75. Dublin (South) Union.

Stephen Costello.—Letter from the clerk to the Board of Guardians, enclosing copy of report from D. Drew, relieving officer, relative to the removal of Stephen Costello from the West London Union to Ireland, dated 18th February 1854.

Copy of report of the relieving officer on the case of Stephen Costello.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to C. S. Crawford, Esq., Poor Law Inspector, dated 20th February 1854, desiring him to examine the pauper Costello on oath, and report the result of the examination to the Commissioners.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 21st February 1854, stating that they have instructed their inspector to make inquiry into the case.

Report of C. S. Crawford, Esq., Poor Law Inspector, enclosing depositions of Stephen Costello, dated 25th February 1854.

Stephen Costello, having been duly sworn, deposes that he was born in Ireland; the first place he has any recollection of being at was Strokestown, Roscommon, where he resided with his uncle; after leaving Strokestown he went to Castlerea, where he remained about 10 or 12 years; after which he went to England in the year 1812. He went at once to the city of London, and resided in the parish of St. Sepulchre from that period up to the time of his removal. He first occupied an apartment situated in John's-court, West Smithfield; he afterwards removed to Queen's Head-court, Giltspur-street; he also lodged for some time in John's-court, in Field-lane, Hosier-lane, Wright's-buildings, and Cock-lane, all in the same parish. He never lived in any other place in London except those which he has mentioned. The first time that he received relief from the parish was about ten years ago, when relief was given to him for about three months, in consequence of an accident which occurred to him about seven years ago. He received extensive injuries from being run over by a cab, when he was taken to an hospital, and after his discharge went into the West London Union Workhouse, of which he was an occasional inmate up to the time of his removal. About four or five years ago efforts were first made to effect his removal, and he was taken before the magistrates sitting at Guildhall, to make an affidavit; he was asked to swear in what place in Ireland he was born, which he was unable to do, because his father had died when he was very young, and he had been a dealer going about the country. He thinks he was three or four different times brought before the magistrates, and committed for a fortnight to gaol for not answering the question, which he was unable to do. He was also frequently brought up, but not committed to gaol; at last, in the month of July 1853, he was again brought up to Guildhall, when he repeated his statement as to not knowing where he was born, at the same time informing the magistrate that the last place in Ireland in which he had resided was Castlerea, from which he had come to London, through Dublin; when the magistrate said that was sufficient, and gave an order for his removal to Castlerea, which was carried into effect on the 23d July, on which day he was put on board a packet sailing for Dublin; and on landing received money sufficient to take him to Castlerea, where he went, but could not find there a single person he ever knew before. After some time, he got employment, taking care of cows, and remained there in that employment until about the 8th of February, when wishing to get back to England his employer gave him the means which enabled him to reach Dublin on his journey, but becoming destitute on his arrival there, he was forced to apply for relief, and was admitted into the workhouse of the South Dublin Union on Friday the 10th instant, and where he still remains.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 28th February 1854, stating that the removal of Costello, under the circumstances stated, was illegal; but inasmuch as the time limited by the 6th section of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, for an appeal, has expired, the Commissioners do not see that any step can now be taken in the case with any advantage.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, dated 28th February 1854, calling their attention to the case.

Letter from the Poor Law Board, London, enclosing copy of letter from the guardians of the West London Union, dated 30th March 1854.

Copy of letter from the clerk to the Board of Guardians of the West London Union, dated 22 March 1854, stating that Stephen Costello was, prior to his removal to England, a well known pauper in that union; that he, together with a female with whom he cohabited, and her illegitimate children by him, had been recipients of relief afforded by this union for many years; that the guardians felt that he was a proper object to be supported in Ireland, having no settlement in England, and that the necessary steps were accordingly taken to have him removed to that country in due course of law, also enclosing a copy of petition addressed by Stephen Costello to the guardians, prior to his removal.

Copy of the petition of Stephen Costello to the Board of Guardians of the West London Union,

Union, praying them to assist him to reach his native place, Castlerea, county of Roscommon, and humbly throwing himself upon the merciful consideration of the Board, to grant him one sovereign for that purpose, solemnly declaring on their acceding, he will never trouble them again or return to this country.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 5th April 1854, enclosing a copy of the communication which the Commissioners have received from the Poor Law Board in England respecting the case.

No. 76. Dundalk Union.—24 June 1848.

Bridget Swift was born in the East Indies; her father was an Englishman, her mother an Irishwoman. Deponent was married about 16 years ago in the Old Church, Liverpool, to George Swift, a native of Cheshire; removed to Chester for her confinement, before her husband's death; took her three children with her; had 6 *s.* a week, and a 2 *s.* loaf of bread, as out-door relief for one month; was brought before the guardians after her confinement, and after an investigation the same relief was continued, until the guardians were told that she was an Irishwoman, upon which they again investigated her case, and ordered her to be sent to Ireland. Deponent had stated that 36 or 37 years ago she came over to Ireland with an aunt, and remained about three weeks; this caused her to be called an Irishwoman.

The guardians of the Dundalk Union on 21st June requested instructions of the Poor Law Commissioners relative to this case, and enclosed the master's report of 31st May, embodying the particulars of Bridget Swift's arrival from Liverpool; and on 26th June the Poor Law Commissioners reply, that it is not apparent whether Bridget Swift was moved by an order of justices, but if so, the order may be appealed against; they request, however, a further examination to be made.

Note.—On 7th July 1848, Bridget Swift and her children left the workhouse, and no further steps were consequently taken.

No. 77. Dungannon Union.—26 October 1848.

Donnolly. Three orphans, named Donnolly, oldest 14 years; parents left Dungannon, their native town, 10 years back; went to Manchester, and lived there till their death, a few weeks since. Upon that occurrence the authorities there transmitted these children to Newry, with 8 *s.* 6 *d.* for their support on to Dungannon. The guardians of that place now resolve to apply to the Poor Law Commissioners, who, on 3d November 1848, inform them that the Act 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, authorises such a proceeding as that of the Manchester authorities above described, except as regard persons who have been resident in the parish for five years continuously before their removal, which fact does not appear in the present case.

No. 78. Dunmanway Union.—23 June 1849.

Mary Murray left Ireland for London 21 years ago, and married there; lived in the Borough, and in the parishes of St. Giles, St. Pancras, and St. Martin; in the latter parish, for eight years prior to her second husband's death; he had lived 39 years in London. On his death she was admitted into the workhouse of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and after 12 months, her son, now 16, was also admitted; both were then transmitted to Dunmanway.

The Board of Guardians resolve on 23d June to call the attention of the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland to this case.

On the 7th July 1849 the Commissioners request further particulars, and same were forwarded on 14th July 1849.

On the 27th July the Commissioners direct an inquiry by J. Rolleston, Esq., Poor Law Inspector, who, on 4th August, transmits his report.

Letter from Mr. Bielefeld, stating Mary Murray's husband to have been in his employment at Wellington-street, London, for 15 years before his death.

The Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland on 18th August 1849, stated the removal of Mary Murray by the authorities of St. Martin-in-the-Fields (assuming her account to be true) to have been contrary to law, and that there were grounds for an appeal by the guardians of Dunmanway.

No. 78 *a*. Dunmanway Union.—16 March 1850.

Denis Brian left the parish of Ballymoney, Cork, about 30 years ago. Went to London; lived for five years in Aldgate parish, and the remainder of the time in Greenwich parish. Married, in George's parish, to an Irishwoman; had three children. Held a house at Greenwich, and paid poor-rates for five years; but lived in a room remainder of time. Was admitted with his family into the workhouse there for four days, and all were then sent to Cork.

This statement was ordered by the Board of Guardians to be forwarded to the Poor Law Commissioners on the above date.

No. 79. Enniscorthy Union.—13 April 1850.

John Whelan. The master stated the case to the Board of Guardians of John Whelan, now about two months an inmate, together with five children, in this workhouse. He lived

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in England for the last 25 years, and was sent here by the authorities of Manchester, where he had lived for the last 10 years.

Whelan having absconded, leaving his children in this workhouse, the Board on 20th April 1850, direct steps for his apprehension; and also write to the Poor Law Commissioners, to know if they can send the children to Manchester.

The Commissioners, on 1st May 1850, inform the Guardians that no legal power is given to Boards of Guardians in Ireland for the removal of paupers.

No. 80. Galway Union.—1 July 1853.

Martin Connolly. Report of master of workhouse upon the circumstance of Martin Connolly, an insane man, being brought to this workhouse from the parish of Inverkip, Renfrew, instead of being taken to Clifden, to which he appears properly chargeable. The Board of Guardians resolve to apply to the Poor Law Commissioners for advice.

Copy of the petition of James H. Brunton, inspector of poor of Inverkip, to the sheriff of Renfrew, stating that Martin Connolly, though receiving relief from that parish, has not acquired a settlement therein, and praying an order for his removal to Ireland.

Copy of certificate, dated 16 June 1853, of Dr. Mackie, as to Martin Connolly's health.

Copy of order, dated 17 June 1853, of Claud Marshall, esq., sheriff substitute of Renfrew, for the removal of Martin Connolly to Myress Ballanahinch, Galway.

The Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland communicate on July 7th with the Board of Supervision for the Relief of the Poor in Scotland, relative to this case, and intimate this proceeding to the guardians of Galway. Receipt of letter acknowledged by Board of Supervision on 11th July 1853.

No. 81. Kilmallock Union.—14 June 1851.

Catherine Walsh and Catherine Slator.

Catherine Walsh was born in the town of Kilfinane; went to London in 1818; was married at Newington Church to John Walsh, who died in 1842, leaving two children; in April last was admitted into St. Luke's Workhouse, having lived in that parish for the last 19 years; was three weeks in the workhouse, and was then, together with her child, sent by the authorities of same to Kilmallock, that being the nearest railway station to the town in which she was born.

Catherine Slator is 31 years of age, and has lived in the parish of St. Pancras, London, for the last 28 years; in 1842 married Denis Slator, her husband, who in March last deserted her, leaving her with three children; received out-door relief from St. Pancras Workhouse for a short time after this; was then taken in, and subsequently transmitted to Kilmallock, being the nearest railway station to her native town.

Mr. Sanders, the chairman of the Board of Guardians of the Kilmallock Union, on 14th June 1851 called the attention of the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland to the practices of the London workhouse authorities, which the above cases illustrate. And on 28th June 1851 the Commissioners addressed the Poor Law Board in London relative to the subject, who on 31st July forwarded to the Commissioners the explanation of the guardians of St. Luke's parish, dated 28th July 1851, stating that Catherine Walsh was passed to Ireland by order of removal from this parish; that neither herself nor her illegitimate child had lived for five years in this parish prior to such removal; and that she had been occasionally an inmate of this workhouse, and also in that of the West London Union, and had also been frequently in prison. The Poor Law Board likewise forwarded on 4th August a letter, dated 19th July, of the Directors of the St. Pancras Workhouse, observing that Catherine Slator and her three children being chargeable to the parish of St. Pancras, were legally removable to Ireland, even supposing she had resided in the parish of St. Pancras for the last 28 years. The Poor Law Board at the same time expressed their acquiescence in the views of the directors of St. Pancras Workhouse.

On the 15th August the vice-chairman of the guardians of the Kilmallock Union again addressed the Commissioners in Ireland, on the hardship imposed on the union by its having to support Catherine Walsh.

The Poor Law Commissioners for Ireland, on 26th August, enclosed all the above-mentioned correspondence and explanations, excepting that of 15th August last named, to the guardians of the Kilmallock Union, and on the same date replied to the communication from the vice-chairman of the Board of Guardians, to the effect that the removal of Catherine Walsh to Ireland, by the parish authorities of St. Luke's, London, was warranted by law.

No. 82. Limerick Union.—18 October 1848.

Catherine Ryan has lived in and about London for the last 15 years; married James Ryan five years back; about three months since he deserted her and her three children, the oldest of whom is four years old. About five weeks ago she was obliged to seek relief at the Marylebone workhouse, and, after a long struggle with the porter and policeman, was admitted with her children. After 11 days, was told (on October 11th, 1848) that she would be removed to Ireland, and, upon her refusing to go, was handcuffed with irons, forced into a cab, and taken to a house at Wapping, whither her children were also brought in a van.

On

On the following morning they were all placed on board the Cork steamer, under charge of a man sent with them, and, on their arrival at Cork, were transmitted by car to Limerick, and left at the union workhouse there. They were properly fed during this journey.

Catherine Ryan had made a deposition, on September 30th, 1848, before a magistrate at Marylebone Police Court, to the effect that she was born in the county of Limerick, had left there 15 years ago, and had no settlement in England, had become chargeable to the parish of St. Marylebone; and, further, that she had three children, none of whom had obtained a settlement in England.

On October 19th, 1848, Mr. Lynch, a Government Poor Law Inspector, by desire of the Board of Guardians of the Limerick Union, forwarded the above particulars to the Poor Law Commissioners of Ireland, requesting to know whether the removal of Catherine Ryan had been legal, whether the children were not properly chargeable to the place of their birth, and whether the whole were chargeable to the place of the woman's birth, or to that of the husband.

On October 21st, the Commissioners asked to be informed whether Catherine Ryan had lived for five years continually in Marylebone parish before her removal; and on 23d October, Mr. Lynch replied that she had for the last five years lived with her husband, two and a half years in St. Martin's parish, and two and a half years in that of St. Marylebone. Mr. Lynch at the same time enclosed her statement, as follows: She was 10 years in London before she married; during this period she lived four and a half years in the parish of St. Martin's, and the remainder in that of St. James; was married June 12th, 1843, to James Ryan, a native of Sollahead, Tipperary, at St. Martin's Church; then lived two and a half years in the parish of St. James, and there had two children; then lived in Marylebone parish till her husband deserted her, in July last.

On October 26th, 1848, the Commissioners informed the guardians of the Limerick Union that Catherine Ryan was removable, as had been done, so far as her residence in England was concerned; that the children were removable with the parent, as a settlement could not be acquired by birth since 1834; and that the Limerick Union, in which it was presumed Catherine Ryan became destitute on landing from England, was responsible for her relief, and alone chargeable with the cost.

The guardians of Limerick Union ordered, on November 18th, 1848, that application should be made to the Poor Law Commissioners for copies of Catherine Ryan's evidence, and of Mr. Lynch's report; and on November 28th the Commissioners forwarded same.

No. 83. Limerick Union.—17 February 1851.

Margaret Roach does not know the place of her birth; was left an orphan when five or six years old; was reared in London, and has always lived there, with the exception of 10 months when in service at Wandsworth; was never married, but lived for 10 years, up to August 1849, with a tailor named Andrew Brown, by whom she had three children, the oldest now five. Brown went to New York, and she believes is now dead. After he left she supported herself by washing till her confinement in December 1849, then went into the St. Pancras workhouse, London, and was confined on 5th December; in a month afterwards demanded her discharge from the workhouse, which was refused, also on several subsequent occasions; was detained 13 months altogether in the workhouse; during that time was examined by Mr. Hibbard, the pass-master, five or six times; asked to be passed to Boston, America, rather than to Ireland. The pass-master was dissatisfied with her statements as to her place of birth; referred him in May 1850 to a Mrs. Brudenal for information; he did not go to her till December. Mrs. Brudenal then made a deposition; two days after this, deponent demanded her discharge of Mr. Eaton, the master, and was refused; four days after this self and children were sent, at an hour and a half's notice, to the pass-house at Wapping; were kept prisoners there for 13 days, then sailed to Cork, and were brought to Limerick; were in charge of Mr. Nicholson, the pass officer, during the journey; he left them at Limerick; after a week, deponent came into this workhouse.

Copies of the declaration of Margaret Roach, embodying the above particulars, were on 12th February 1851 ordered by the Board of Guardians of the Limerick Union to be sent, with a letter of remonstrance to the Poor Law Commissioners, the Home Secretary, and the city and county Members. And on 4th March the Commissioners informed the guardians that they would make inquiry of the Poor Law Board in England on the subject. And on 7th March addressed a letter to the Poor Law Board in London, requesting an inquiry to be made into the circumstances of the detention of Margaret Roach in St. Pancras workhouse. To which the Poor Law Board replied on 13th March, that they would direct an inquiry; this reply was on 21st March communicated to the guardians of Limerick Union by the Commissioners.

On 4th April the Poor Law Board enclosed to the Commissioners in Ireland a letter from the vestry clerk of St. Pancras, dated 27th March, stating that Margaret Roach never asked for her discharge from St. Pancras workhouse until the order for her removal was obtained, although she might have had such discharge on application to the master; the trouble that her false statements as to herself had occasioned, alone determined the authorities to act on the order of the justices for her removal; she went before the "Discharge Committee" five times as an applicant for out-door relief, and this was refused. Margaret Roach had planned with another woman a scheme for misleading the officers of the workhouse, and this circumstance led to their following up their inquiries, and acting upon them with great strictness, in order to make an example of these women.

Appendix, No. 15. The Commissioners in Ireland forwarded the above explanation to the guardians of Limerick on 12th April 1851.

No. 84. Limerick Union.—9 June 1853.

Bridget Garvey was born in Tuam, County Galway, in 1812. Married James Garvey, a resident in Tuam, in 1828; went with him to London in 1833, where she remained, excepting 12 months spent in Tuam, till 1853. In 1848 her husband died; had had three children by him; one is married, and two are now with her; the oldest of these is 16. About three months after husband's death, went into St. Luke's workhouse, together with her children; remained there four months; then came out, and remained out for six years, living in the same parish. On 23 May 1853 was again admitted into the workhouse, with her two children; was there a week; then applied to Mr. Allbury, the clerk, for her discharge; was refused. Applied then to Mr. Edwards, the master, and obtained it. On going out at the gate, was, by order of Mr. Allbury, forcibly placed in a cab, along with her two children. Was taken on board a steamer, and transmitted to Limerick; was never taken before any authority before being placed on the steamer.

On 13 June 1853 Mr. F. W. Russell, M.P., wrote from London to Mr. Barron, a magistrate of Limerick, acknowledging the receipt of a communication of his, of the 10th June, relative to this case, and stated that he had, together with the Mayor of Limerick, called at the Home Office and at the Poor Law Board, and that Mr. Baines, the chairman of the Board, had stated that Bridget Garvey was irremovable if she had lived for five years in St. Luke's parish prior to her transmission to Ireland. Mr. Russell accordingly requested Mr. Barron to obtain information on this subject; and on June 16th Mr. Robinson, a poor-law inspector at Limerick, forwarded to the Poor Law Commissioners in Dublin an account of the above correspondence, accompanied by a copy of a deposition of Bridget Garvey, dated 15th June 1853, to the effect that she had lived for the last 16 years in the parish of St. Luke, City-road, London, and previous to that for four years in other parts of London; and that prior to her admission into the workhouse of St. Luke's parish, she lived at No. 20, South-street, Brick-lane.

The Poor Law Commissioners, on 22d June 1853, requested the Poor Law Board in London to direct an inquiry to be made into this case, and to ascertain at whose instance Bridget Garvey and family were removed to Ireland; and on 28th June the Poor Law Board replied that such inquiry had been directed.

The Poor Law Board, on 25th July, forwarded to the Commissioners the correspondence relative to this case, commencing with a letter, of 21st June, from the Board to the guardians of St. Luke's, requesting information, and enclosing extracts from the declaration of Bridget Garvey; and on 25th June the guardians replied that Bridget Garvey had been for years chargeable to St. Luke's parish; that on 4th February she and her two children, being in the workhouse, an order for her removal to Ireland was obtained; but that she was discharged on promising not to apply again. That on the 21st May, she being in prison, her children were again admitted, and remained till her release from prison, on the 23d May. That on the 24th both mother and children were admitted; that on the 30th May they were removed to Mr. Baker's depôt at Wapping for transmission to Ireland, and that on the morning of such removal she made a fraudulent attempt to get out of the workhouse by telling the nurse of the receiving ward that she had come to change her clothes, in order to her discharge; but that the fraud was discovered and defeated on her trying to pass the gate.

The Poor Law Board, on 30th June, requested the guardians of St. Luke's to inform them when and for what periods Bridget Garvey was in the receipt of relief; whether the guardians were aware prior to her removal that she had lived 16 years in the parish, and to have their observations on her statement of being removed without being previously brought before any authority. On 19th July the Poor Law Board called the attention of the guardians to their communication of 30th June, and requested an immediate reply thereto; and on the same day the guardians replied that Bridget Garvey and her children were removed under an order of justices in the usual manner, and furthermore respectfully declined to furnish any other information.

On 29th July 1853, the Poor Law Commissioners in Ireland enclosed the before-mentioned correspondence to the guardians of Limerick Union, observing at the same time that the explanations of the guardians of St. Luke's were not satisfactory, and that it was competent for the Limerick guardians, under the 6th section of the Act 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, to appeal against the removal of Bridget Garvey.

No. 85. Limerick Union.—15 February 1854.

Anne Dundon, aged 31 years, has lived for about 17 years in the parish of St. Marylebone, London; her children were born in that parish; she was never in the workhouse till her last confinement; was then admitted with her eldest daughter; remained there three months, then applied for her discharge, which was refused, but herself and family were taken by the workhouse porter and the pass-master, against their will, and put on board a ship, which landed them at Limerick, the captain giving them 4 *s.*; is now destitute and deprived of employment, and must remain a burthen on the Limerick Union; whereas if she was in London she could support herself and family.

The Board of Guardians of the Limerick Union resolved, on 15th February 1854, that copies

copies of the declaration of Anne Dundon should be sent to Lord Palmerston, the Home Secretary, and to Mr. Baines, the Chief Poor Law Commissioner, in London: and on 21st February the Poor Law Commissioners for Ireland wrote to the guardians of the Limerick Union, stating that if Anne Dundon's declaration was true, her removal as described was illegal.

No. 86. Londonderry Union.—25 March 1848.

Eliza Devine stated that she was 12 years of age, and was, together with her brothers, respectively six and four years of age, sent from Glasgow to Londonderry by order of the authorities at Glasgow; they had, with their mother, been receiving relief from the Glasgow Relief Committee; about a month before they left Glasgow the mother was sent to the infirmary there; she, Eliza Devine, has heard nothing of her mother since; received relief after the removal of her mother up to the day of leaving Glasgow; was taken to the steamer by a man from the town-hall of Glasgow; Margaret Closkey, a relation of her mother's, came with them on the steamer, and had a pass, and was fed like themselves for nothing; heard the said Margaret M'Closkey say she had no pass to go back to Glasgow with. Deponent's father was a tailor in Glasgow, and died there about 12 months ago.

The Board of Guardians of the Londonderry Union, on 18th March 1848, resolved to request the Poor Law Commissioners to cause inquiry to be made into this case; the Commissioners replied, on the 23d March, that they would do so; and accordingly, on the same day, directed Mr. Horsley, a poor-law inspector, to proceed to Londonderry, inquire into the subject, and take the evidence of Eliza Devine; which he did on the 25th March, and by letter, on 27th March, transmitted to the Commissioners the statement of the girl, embodying the particulars above stated. Mr. Horsley observed upon the case, that the girl's statement was "altogether devoid of truth," and that her mother and Margaret M'Closkey had tutored her to make it; that subsequent to his taking down her statement, she confessed to one Jane Colclough that her mother was alive and well, and kept a lodging-house in Guildry-court, Bridgegate, Glasgow, and that her mother got Margaret M'Closkey to personate her, and take Eliza Devine and her brothers to Glasgow. Mr. Horsley further stated, that Margaret M'Closkey had returned to Glasgow.

On 29th March 1848, the Poor Law Commissioners transmitted to the guardians of the Londonderry Union the results of their inquiry, as given in Mr. Horsley's Report, for the information of the guardians.

No. 87. Londonderry Union.—15 July 1848.

Mary Sherlock and Susan O'Neill.

Mary Sherlock is 48 years of age; was born in Scotland; has always lived in Edinburgh; for the last 28 years lived in Greyfriars parish continuously; was a householder in that parish, and had 13 children born there. Her husband was born in the county of Cavan, in Ireland, but has lived 42 years in Edinburgh; nine of the children died; of the survivors three are now in Edinburgh, two of whom are in service. Deponent's father was an Irishman, but had lived in Edinburgh 10 years before his death. Her husband went to look for work, and is either in England or Scotland. Deponent was sent from Edinburgh by Mr. Ferguson, a manager of the charity workhouse; this was done against her will; she was taken by three policemen like a thief, and sent to Glasgow under charge of a man named Frazier, who put her on board the boat, together with her daughter, aged 14 years, and a son three months old. Deponent had been in the workhouse at Edinburgh six months at the time of her removal; had been kept in the Convalescent Fever Ward. Her daughter was admitted the day before such removal, but had been for three months in the workhouse on a former occasion. Deponent had nothing to eat from the time of her leaving Edinburgh till she arrived at Derry, being 24 hours.

Susan O'Neill was born in Inishowen, near Greencastle, county of Donegal; her husband was born in Derry Town; he died last Christmas; she left Ireland with him four months after their marriage, 36 years ago; during this time were never out of Scotland, and lived in Edinburgh for the last 13 years. Deponent has five children, one being now with her, and four in Edinburgh; of whom one is married, two are in employment, and the fourth, a girl, at deponent's house. Deponent was in the workhouse at Edinburgh for a week before she was removed; on the morning of that day, at four o'clock, heard for the first time that she was to go to Ireland, and at half-past four on that morning was called up and brought off, against her will, under charge of the police; was not allowed to go and tell her children; herself and child had only three halfpenny's worth of bread each given to them on leaving Edinburgh.

The Board of Guardians of the Londonderry Union, on 15th July 1848, enclosed to the Poor Law Commissioners in Dublin the depositions embodying the above statements, and, at the same time, acquainted the Commissioners with the temporary admission of the women into the workhouse, and requested to know how they ought to act with regard both to these or any other similar cases that might arise for the future. And on July 28th, the Commissioners intimated to the guardians that they would institute an inquiry; and accordingly, on July 29th, they communicated with the Board of Supervision, Scotland, relative thereto. On August 3d, the Board informed the Commissioners that they had directed an investigation into the above cases.

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The Board of Supervision, on August 25th, enclosed the following papers to the Commissioners in Dublin. A letter from the Parochial Board of Edinburgh, dated 14th August, enclosing the papers hereafter referred to, and observing, that these paupers were called on the morning of leaving before six, and started at seven from Edinburgh, each having at starting three six-ounce loaves, and one having also some coffee; on reaching Glasgow, they had a penny loaf and some ale, and were treated by another pauper to some whiskey; they further would have been fed at Greenock, but the time between the arrival of the train and the departure of the boat would not admit of it, the boat having to put back to the quay to take them; and that none of them were put into the convalescent fever ward, as stated. This letter enclosed the justices' order, dated July 7, for the removal of Mary Sherlock, which order, alluding to her deposition of same date, and also the complaint of Smith Ferguson, likewise of the same date, an inspector of poor, observes that the husband of Mary Sherlock has obtained no settlement in any parish or combination in Scotland.

Mary Sherlock had made a statement before the city inspector of poor on July 7th, that she was born at sea; married at Edinburgh, in 1815, to an Irishman, and lived with him in various parts of Edinburgh up to 1841; that he has now deserted her. The letter of the parochial board also enclosed the justices' order for the removal of Susan O'Neill, dated July 7th, which order, alluding to her deposition, and the complaint of Smith Ferguson, both of same date, states that Susan O'Neill has not acquired a settlement in any parish or combination in Scotland.

The Commissioners forwarded the above information to the Londonderry guardians on September 3d; and on September 9th, the guardians directed steps for the apprehension of the husband of Mary Sherlock.

The Board of Supervision of Poor in Scotland, in the above-mentioned letter of 25th August, said that the parochial officers of Edinburgh had acted legally in the above removals.

No. 88. Londonderry Union.—10 May 1851.

Margaret Picket is 40 years of age; was married at Limerick 15 or 16 years ago, to Michael Picket; has one child three years and a half old; expects to have another in a month; herself and husband lived in Limerick from the time of their marriage till July 1849, he then went to Scotland to look for work; she joined him in June 1850; a few months afterwards both went to Edinburgh; he left in the following December; in April last, deponent applied for relief in Edinburgh, but was refused; then went to Glasgow; applied on 5th May at the "Town's House" for relief; got none, but the officers there sent her on board the steamer to Londonderry.

The guardians of Londonderry Union called the attention of the Poor Law Commissioners in Dublin to this case, on 14th May 1851, and requested their assistance to prevent paupers being sent to ports in Ireland, which were remote from the places where they had a settlement; on May 16th, the Commissioners acquainted the guardians that they would communicate with the Board of Supervision in Scotland, which they did on May 17th.

On May 23d, the Board of Supervision replied that they had no statutable power to interfere in such practices, as named in the letter of the 14th May, of the guardians of the Londonderry Union, but that the Board would urge their recommendations of 29th January 1846, relative to such cases, upon the attention of the authorities of Glasgow.

The Commissioners enclosed this correspondence to the Londonderry guardians on June 6th, 1851.

No. 89. Londonderry Union.—24 May 1851.

Margaret O'Donnell and Maria Ferguson.

Margaret O'Donnell is 19 years of age; lived from her childhood in Taghmon parish, county of Wexford, till 1842, when she went as servant to Cape Town, South Africa; married there, in 1850, to James O'Donnell, a gunner in the Royal Artillery. He deserted in January last, and both came to Glasgow; that he there left her. She applied on the 5th and 20th instant at the "Town's House" for relief; was refused, but sent by the officers thereof to Londonderry, although she asked to go to Dublin; but they told her the Londonderry Union were bound to send her to Dublin.

Maria Ferguson is 21 years of age; was born in Dublin, and lived there and in Kingstown till five years ago; then went as a servant to Glasgow; fell ill about 10 months ago, was admitted into the infirmary, but discharged as incurable; applied on 20th May at the "Towns House" for relief; was refused, but was sent to Londonderry, although she had asked to be sent to Dublin; but they told her that the Londonderry authorities were bound to send her on to Dublin.

By a resolution of the guardians of the Londonderry Union, of 24th May 1851, the above statements were sent to the Poor Law Commissioners in Dublin, who on 6th June replied, that from previous communications with the Board of Supervision in Scotland, it appeared "that there is no authority to direct the removal of paupers to a particular locality, and that the Commissioners could not interfere in the matter."

No. 90. Londonderry Union.—7 March 1853.

Deborah Finacune and Benjamin Bayneham.

Deborah Finacune is 40 years of age; lived in the main street of the Gorbals, in Glasgow; her uncle, Benjamin Bayneham, lived with her; he was by trade a watchmaker, and had lived in the city of Limerick, and carried on business there for many years up to 1851; he then became reduced in circumstances, and went to Glasgow and lived with a married daughter, who left him with deponent. During the last six weeks they occasionally obtained out-door relief. On 26th February last, the relieving officer of Glasgow undertook to take them to Limerick, but, instead, brought them both over to Londonderry. Bayneham and deponent were then very ill, and Bayneham died in a week after his arrival, in this workhouse.

On 9th March 1853 the guardians of the Londonderry Union called the attention of the Poor Law Commissioners to this case, and enclosed a certificate stating that Bayneham, when taken into the workhouse, was in an advanced stage of consumption, extremely weak, and died on 5th March from exhaustion. The Commissioners, on 14th March 1853, communicated with the Board of Supervision in Scotland relative to this case.

On 17th March the Londonderry guardians enclosed to the Commissioners a deposition on oath of Deborah Finacune, embodying the same particulars as stated above; and the Commissioners sent the same to the Board of Supervision on 21st March, at the same time acknowledging the receipt of a letter from the Board, of 16th March, promising to inquire into this case.

The Board of Supervision in Scotland, on 20th April, enclosed to the Commissioners their correspondence with the Parochial Board of Gorbals parish, Glasgow, comprising a letter of 8th April from the inspector of Gorbals parish to the Board of Supervision, enclosing the declarations of John Stewart, Peter Hendry, and James Fraser, officers of Gorbals parish, from which it appeared that Deborah Finacune and Benjamin Bayneham were removed to Ireland at their own express request; that they fully understood that they were going to Londonderry; that their removal was deferred to long after their request, in order that the weather should be favourable; that the time at which they were removed was so, being sunny and fine; that Deborah Finacune went below to the steerage directly she went on board; that Bayneham did so at Greenock; that the steerage was warm and comfortable; that Bayneham was a dissipated old man, and surreptitiously procured whiskey with his own money during certain stoppages on the journey, and moreover that neither of these paupers were removed until a medical certificate stating that they could stand such removal had been obtained.

The committee of management of the Gorbals Parochial Board, dated 6th April, express their opinion that there were no grounds of complaint in the above cases.

On 23d April, the Londonderry guardians having been applied to by Deborah Finacune for her discharge, apply to the Commissioners to know whether anything had arisen out of the inquiries in this matter which would render it advisable for Deborah Finacune to continue any longer in the workhouse.

The Poor Law Commissioners, on 29th April, enclosed the above papers to the Londonderry guardians, and after commenting thereon, observe that, "under all the circumstances, the Commissioners see no ground of complaint at the manner in which the removal was effected; and it is not therefore necessary that Deborah Finacune should remain any longer in the workhouse if she is not destitute."

The Londonderry guardians, on reading the above communication on 30th April, resolved that a further affidavit be procured from Deborah Finacune, and that the certificate of Dr. White as to Bayneham's health on his arrival be verified; and on 14th May the guardians further resolved that the conduct of the Glasgow authorities, though perhaps legal, evinced that want of humane consideration which the unfortunate condition of a person nearly dying should have demanded; and they at the same time, whilst forwarding this their opinion to the Commissioners, sent the affidavit of Dr. White as to Bayneham's weak and diseased state a few hours after landing at Londonderry; and also the affidavit of Deborah Finacune, to the effect that she had remonstrated with the Glasgow authorities on their proposal to send her to other places in Ireland than Limerick, and that Bayneham thought, on commencing the journey, that Limerick, and not Londonderry, was their destination; that Bayneham sunk under the effects of the voyage, joined to despair at finding himself in a place where he was unknown and unprovided for.

On 30th May, the Commissioners informed the guardians that they had on 28th May forwarded the above papers to the Board of Supervision in Scotland, and requested that the removal of paupers in future should be made on a medical certificate, obtained immediately before such removal, and that such removal should, if practicable, be to the native place of such paupers, and not to places remote therefrom.

On 24th June the Board of Supervision enclosed to the Commissioners a letter of 24th June from the Board of Supervision to the Inspector of Gorbals parish, Glasgow, calling his attention to certain rules as to the removal of paupers, and particularly as to the necessity of a medical certificate being had immediately prior to any removal, whether voluntary or otherwise; and on 1st July, this communication was forwarded by the Commissioners to the Londonderry guardians.

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No. 91. Longford Union.—11 October 1847.

Mary Anne King, aged 33, lived in Manchester for the last 18 years; has one child, who is in employment there; three months ago, went to Liverpool for a letter from a brother in America; caught a fever, was put into the fever hospital of Liverpool workhouse, remained there a month and four days; was then taken to some place and sworn that to best of her knowledge she was born in Raharney, in Westmeath county; then, with 40 others, had two pounds of bread and 3*d.* given to her; was then marched off with the rest, under charge of some police; asked where she was going to; some of the women of the party told her to Ireland; refused to go on board the vessel, and be parted from her child, and said she belonged to Manchester; police told her she must go, and then took her by the arm and forced her on board, saying, "You are forced to go to Ireland, and you have a parish there as well as in England." The boat landed them at Dublin; were then taken before the lord mayor, who sent them to the relieving officer, who gave them two pounds of bread; and two police accompanied them to the railway, which took them to Enfield, where they all separated. King then came to Mullingar; the relieving officer sent them to the workhouse, where they got supper, bed, and breakfast. Next day, the governor, after inquiry, told her she belonged to Longford; she then came to Raharney; there stopped with an aunt to recover herself, and then came to Longford.

About four years ago, her husband, a bricklayer, deserted her for another woman, but the parish officers forced him to pay 2*s.* 6*d.* a week towards her support; this was afterwards reduced to 2*s.*, and then he disappeared altogether, and she heard that he died from a fall.

On the 11th October 1847, the relieving officer of Longford memorialised the Poor Law Commissioners in Dublin as to this case, which memorial the Board of Guardians of Longford Union, on 23d October 1847, resolved to respectfully request the Poor Law Commissioners to refer to, and on 29th October the Commissioners requested to know from the guardians upon what grounds they considered the removal of Mary Anne King illegal; in answer to which communication the relieving officer of Longford, in a letter of 30th October, referred the Commissioners to his memorial of the 11th instant, as to her residence in Manchester for the last 18 years.

The Commissioners, on 16th December 1847, informed the Longford Guardians that Mary Anne King had not acquired a settlement in England from the mere circumstance of her residing there; that her removal therefore had been legal, but that it was material to ascertain whether her husband had acquired a settlement.

No. 92. Lowtherstown Union.—18 December 1850.

Elizabeth Johnstone lived 10 years with her husband in Paisley, then went to Manchester, where she lived six years, then returned to Paisley, and becoming destitute applied for relief and got 3*s.*, was then taken before the sheriff and sworn as to what county she was born in, and was thereupon forcibly taken and put on board a steamer, great violence being used to effect this, and she was consequently seriously injured; she was landed at Belfast.

On 18 December 1850, the guardians of Lowtherstown called the attention of the Poor Law Commissioners to this case, who on 31st December requested further information, and on 8th January 1851 the guardians replied that Elizabeth Johnstone was not a widow; that her husband and herself left Ireland 15 years since for Paisley and stopped there till 1844, then went to Manchester, remained there till 17th July 1850, then returned to Paisley, lived there in a house in Incle-street until the end of October, when she was forcibly removed by the clerk to the relief office, who took her to Renfrew and afterwards brought her back to Paisley; a week afterwards, he again forcibly took her away to the Greenock station, where he paid her lodging for one night; she returned to Paisley next day, and at 8 o'clock the same night the said clerk came with a policeman, took her to the train, and afterwards put her on board the steamer "Firefly," which landed her at Belfast; her husband had left her a short time before this violence, but has since written to say that he is working at New Mains Foundry.

On 15th January 1851 the Poor Law Commissioners wrote to the Board of Supervision at Edinburgh relative to this case, who on 21st February 1851 enclosed the petition and warrant of removal, together with a copy of the evidence in this case, from which it appeared that Elizabeth Johnstone, in consequence of her violent temper, had been deserted by her husband, and having consequently become destitute, had been removed by the Paisley authorities to Ireland; that no violence had been used in such removal, but that her behaviour had been exceedingly so; the Board of Supervision observed relative to her case, that there did not appear to have been anything illegal in the proceedings of the Paisley authorities; and the Commissioners forwarded these particulars on 4th April 1851 to the Lowtherstown Guardians.

No. 93. Mallow Union.—13 January 1854.

Johanna Crowley is the wife of Patrick Crowley; both are natives of Mallow; her husband went to London on 1st May last, and herself at the end of the following month. He was employed at Buckham, 25 miles from London, until the end of August; both then went to Essex; at the end of three weeks she went to London to get her child cured of a skin disease; then went with herself and child into the infirmary of the Smithfield workhouse; at the end of a month was taken against her consent, and without being able to communicate

communicate with her husband, and put on board a steamer, and sent to Charleville, in the county of Cork; the hospital nurse told her that if she refused to go she would be imprisoned 31 days.

On 13th January 1854, the guardians of Mallow Union ordered the above statement to be forwarded to the Commissioners in Dublin, and on 19th January the Commissioners directed one of their inspectors to examine Johanna Crowley, and communicated this circumstance to the Mallow guardians on the same day; but Johanna Crowley and her child having left the workhouse, no further proceedings were had relative to her case.

No. 94. Monaghan Union.—5 December 1849.

Jane Cunningham (or *M'Closkey*) was a native of Cavan, and had been domiciled in Scotland for 27 years. A Scotch poor-law officer and another man scaled the wall of the Monaghan Union workhouse on 28th November 1849, and surreptitiously introduced Jane Cunningham into the house, she being of unsound mind.

On 5th December the Monaghan guardians acquainted the Commissioners with this circumstance, enclosing also an order of justices of Edinburgh for her removal. The guardians received an inquiry, dated 11th December, from Thomas M'Closkey, after his wife, and directed an answer to be sent to him, and also that the letter of inquiry be forwarded to the Commissioners in Dublin.

The Commissioners on 22d December, directed one of their Poor Law Inspectors, to make an inquiry into this case, and acquainted the guardians of Monaghan with this proceeding.

On 31st December the Poor Law Inspector informed the Commissioners that the woman had left the workhouse on 7th December of her own accord, stating she would go to some friends in Derry.

On 4th January 1850, the Commissioners acquainted the guardians of the Monaghan Union with the tenor of their inspector's report.

No. 95. Monaghan Union.—19 July 1850.

Francis M'Carron, is a native of Lisaraw, in the parish and county of Monaghan. Went to Scotland 20 years ago; lived principally in Aberdeen and Dundee, and followed the calling of a pedlar up to May last; was then arrested in Edinburgh and sent to Ireland by the magistrates. Is at present in a very helpless state from the loss of one of his legs about 12 years ago.

The Board of Guardians of the Monaghan Union on 19th June, forwarded the above statement to the Commissioners in Dublin, and asked their advice.

The Commissioners replied on July 1850, and after stating how a settlement might be acquired in Scotland, observed, that they presumed Francis M'Carron had not gained a settlement in any parish in Scotland, and was therefore legally removable on applying for relief in any parish there.

No. 96. Newry Union.—25 August 1851.

Mary Henderson is 82 years of age; is a native of Monaghan county; left Ireland with her husband in 1809; went to Liverpool, remained there 26 years; then went to Toxteth Park, near Liverpool, and remained there 13 years. Has lived for the last two years in the West Derby workhouse, and has been removed from there within the last week against her wishes.

On the 25th August the guardians of the Newry Union laid this case before the Commissioners in Dublin; on 29th August the Commissioners asked for further information, and accordingly, on 2d September, the guardians inform them that Mary Henderson resided in Ashton-street, Toxteth Park, seven years, and in Prince's-street, Toxteth Park, two years, both uninterruptedly; that she then went to Scotland, to see her son, where she remained 11 months, and then returned to Crown-street, Toxteth Park, and lived there two years; and that for the last two years she had been in the West Derby workhouse; that she was then brought to Newry, where she had never been before, although the man who brought her was going on to Monaghan, her native county.

On 5th September 1851 the Poor Law Commissioners informed the guardians of the Monaghan Union that it did not appear that Mary Henderson had resided for an uninterrupted period of five years in the same parish previous to entering the West Derby workhouse, and that her removal had consequently been legal.

No. 97. Rathdown Union.—19 November; 7 December 1853.

Michael M'Intee was born at Portlaw, Ireland, which place he left six months ago. Became, together with his wife and two children, an inmate of the Warwick Union workhouse; was sent by the authorities there back to Ireland, being on 23d November put on board a steamer at Liverpool and landed at Kingstown, from whence he made his way to Rathdown. Deponent was put on board such steamer against his consent, having wished to be conveyed to Waterford.

On 7th December the Rathdown Board of Guardians directed this case to be submitted to the Poor Law Commissioners in Dublin, who, on 13th December, informed the guardians that there were grounds for appeal against the removal as above described, as not being in

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accordance with the warrant order of removal of the magistrates in Warwick, which required that Michael M'Intee be conveyed from Warwick to Waterford.

No. 98. Rathdrum Union.—16 July 1850.

Henry, James, and Peter Sharpe. Three children, named Henry, James, and Peter Sharpe, stated that they had been in England for the last two years; that their father was taken ill at Liverpool, and was sent to an hospital; and on the day he was taken ill the said three children were put on board a steamer by the relieving officer at Liverpool. Had 6*d.* each given them to take them to Dublin.

The guardians of Rathdrum Union ordered, on 16th July, that the opinion of the Commissioners in Dublin should be obtained as to the legality of the above proceeding; and on 23d July the Commissioners requested further information; and on 25th July the guardians replied, that the father, Peter Sharpe, had since been admitted into the union, and stated that he was taken ill at New Cumnoch, in Scotland, and went into an hospital there, and that the authorities forwarded the children to Dublin *viâ* Liverpool; that they likewise sent him, at their own expense, and that the children were respectively fourteen, six, and four years of age.

On 29th July the Commissioners desired further information, which, as far as practicable, was accordingly forwarded by the guardians, on 30th July; but the Commissioners, on 9th August 1850, informed the guardians that the parties seemed so totally unable to furnish any certain information as to the authority under which they were removed, that the Commissioners felt unable to offer an opinion as to the legality of the course adopted respecting them.

No. 99. Shillelagh Union.—22 November 1850.

William Freeman has resided for the last ten years in Marylebone parish, London; was sent by the authorities thence to Ireland, his expenses being paid to Carlow.

The guardians of Shillelagh Union on 22d November 1850 directed the attention of the Commissioners to be drawn to this case, and the Commissioners on 28th November asked for further particulars, but William Freeman left the workhouse, and no further inquiries were made.

No. 100. Skibbereen Union.—14 June 1849.

Michael Regan has resided in London nearly 14 years, living in the parish of Poplar, except during two years, from 10th June 1842 till 26th May 1844 passed in America, and including journey there and back; has rented houses in Poplar, and carried on a business as a greengrocer and chandler; became reduced in circumstances, and went into the workhouse; was removed from there against his will to Cork, no time being allowed him to dispose of some property, or to collect debts owing to him, amounting to 20 *l.*; has five children born in London, one eleven, two eight, one four, and one one-and-a-half years of age.

The guardians of Skibbereen on 14th June called the attention of the Commissioners to this case, and on 22d June the Commissioners directed one of their inspectors to obtain further particulars, which were accordingly furnished on 27th June, and were a general confirmation of the facts given in the above statement.

The Poor Law Commissioners on 6th July inform the Skibbereen guardians, that they were of opinion that the removal of Michael Regan had been illegal, and that the guardians might successfully appeal against the same.

On 6th July the Commissioners acquainted the Poor Law Board in London with the above particulars.

On 12th July 1849 the Skibbereen guardians resolved to prosecute an appeal against the removal of Michael Regan, and having communicated this resolution to the Poor Law Commissioners, the Commissioners informed them on 24th July that the appeal must be made through the Poor Law Board; and on 9th August the guardians resolved to appeal accordingly.

The Poor Law Board in London on the 28th July 1849, informed the Commissioners there did not appear any evidence that Michael Regan was settled in the parish of Poplar, and that as he did not return from America till 21st May, although between that time and 2d June 1849 more than five years had elapsed, still he had been 10 weeks in receipt of relief, and that period being deducted, left less than five years, and so he became removable under 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66.

This communication was forwarded to the guardians of Skibbereen Union, on 11th August 1849 by the Commissioners.

No. 101. Sligo Union.—25 July 1848.

Thomas and Mary Duckan.

Thomas Duckan is a native of the parish of Costelloe, in the county of Mayo, which place he left in 1818; went to Manchester; lived there four years; then went to Bolton-le-Moors; lived there 26 years, of which time he 19 years rented a house, but gave it up; was supported partly by his children's labour, and partly by playing on the union pipes, and latterly received parish relief. On 25th May the passmaster of Bolton-le-Moors parish forcibly

forcibly took him to Liverpool; there met two of his children; said that he wished to go to Dublin; but in spite of his resistance, he was violently forced on board the Sligo boat, together with the two children, and only four three-penny loaves, some butter, and 4 *s.* given him; was landed at Sligo in a destitute state, and procured admittance to the workhouse.

Mary Duckan, aged 16, was in service with Thomas Belcher, poor-rate collector at Bolton-le-Moors, he sent her to the workhouse there, and on 25th May she was forcibly taken to Liverpool against her wishes, and together with her father and sister sent to Sligo.

The Poor Law guardians of the Sligo Union forwarded the above particulars to the Commissioners in Dublin, on 16th August 1848, and on 22d August the Commissioners sent same to the Poor Law Board in London. The Board on 14th September enclosed to the Commissioners an extract from the minutes of proceedings of the guardians of the Bolton Union, dated 6th September 1848, from which it appeared, by a statement of the passmaster of Bolton, that Thomas Duckan was removed under the usual justice's order; that no violence was used in such removal, and that he was sent to Sligo as being the nearest port to his native place. It further appeared, from the statement of the relieving officer of Bolton, that Thomas Duckan was generally considered a mendicant or tramp; that he had been removed to Ireland on 20th April 1843, but afterwards returned to England, and went and lived at Rochdale for three years, and then came to Bolton; he was subsequently sent to Ireland as a tramp.

These particulars were enclosed by the Commissioners to the guardians of the Sligo Union on 22d September 1848, and on 3d October the guardians forwarded to the Commissioners a deposition of Thomas Duckan, which set forth that about a month before his removal he was taken before the mayor of Bolton, and that the mayor on hearing the case advised the parish officers to settle the case, and have no more to do with him (Duckan). That on his refusal, on a subsequent occasion, to be sworn as to his settlement in Ireland, he was committed to gaol; that he was again brought before the mayor, and the clerk told him unless he would be sworn he would be kept in gaol for life, and he accordingly was sworn; and that his subsequent removal was the only occasion of his being sent to Ireland under a magistrate's warrant. The Commissioners sent this statement to the Poor Law Board in London on 10th October 1848, who on 21st October applied to the Commissioners for copies of all the correspondence on this subject; but the Commissioners replied on 26th October, that same had already been furnished.

The Poor Law Board, on 3d January 1849, acquainted the Commissioners that they were incompetent to deal with the complaint against the clerk to the justices of Bolton, of having threatened Thomas Duckan with imprisonment, and that such complaint should be made through the Secretary of State for the Home Department; and further, that if Thomas Duckan was not legally removeable, the warrant might have been appealed against; and if he was removeable, in that case his daughter was likewise.

The Commissioners in Dublin informed the guardians of the Sligo Union of the substance of this communication on 3d October 1848.

No. 102. Strabane Union.

Anne Newton, aged 36, with five children, aged respectively eleven, nine, five, and three years, and eight months, removed from Glasgow on a warrant dated 10th June 1850. It was alleged that she had been married in Scotland 12 years before that date, and that she had resided for six years in St. Ninian-street, in the parish of Govans; that she had applied for relief after her husband's death, which occurred from an accident while in employment: that she was the daughter of a soldier, and that she did not know her own birthplace, but that her mother stated that she had been born in Strabane. From the depositions taken in Glasgow, and forwarded to the Irish Poor Law Commissioners by the Board of Supervision, it appeared that while residing in the parish of Govans, Anne Newton's husband had twice applied for and received relief, and that he had not obtained a settlement in that or in any other parish in Scotland. It did not appear, however, from the depositions that there was any ground for her removal to Strabane, the evidence declaring merely that she was born in Ireland.

No. 103. Strabane Union.—27 May 1851.

Maria Ferguson. Resolution of guardians, stating that Maria Ferguson, a native of Dublin, who had been 14 years in Scotland, on her application for admission to hospital, had been passed to Derry, and thence to Strabane, by the authorities at Glasgow.

Reply of Poor Law Commissioners, dated 12th June 1851, forwarding a copy of letter received from the Board of Supervision, together with a copy of the circular therein referred to, dated 29th January 1846.

(*See* Londonderry Series, No. 89 *supra.*)

No. 104. Strabane Union.

Thomas Kincaird and Elizabeth M'Ivor. Resolution of guardians, dated 9th September 1851, stating that Thomas Kincaird, a weaver, who had worked at his trade for the last eight years in Scotland, had been sent over in charge of an officer from Glasgow, with a warrant directing his removal to the county Tyrone, but not specifying any parish or place in that

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county; that the bench of magistrates at Strabane had decided that he was not entitled to relief in the workhouse of that town, and that he should return to Scotland with the officer that brought him; that the officer took him back to Derry and there deserted him, and that he had been admitted to the workhouse of Strabane Union on the 2d September.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners, dated 15th September, explaining provisions of the law of removal from Scotland, and requiring particulars.

Resolution of guardians, dated 16th September 1851, stating that Thomas Kincaird had resided for four years and ten months in the town of Girvin, and three years and seven months in Glasgow, and that he had not applied for or received relief during the entire period.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners, dated 29th September, stating that Thomas Kincaird was legally removable from Scotland.

No. 105. Strabane Union.

Elizabeth M'Ivor. Resolution of guardians, dated 16th September 1851, stating that Elizabeth M'Ivor, alias Donnelly, had resided for 33 years in Scotland, during nine of which she had been in employment in the city parish of Glasgow, and that during the subsequent six years she had supported herself in the same parish without applying for relief; that on her application for relief she had first been relieved out of the poorhouse, and subsequently had remained for 17 months in that establishment, making a continuous residence of 16 years and eight months in the same parish; that she had subsequently been removed from Glasgow, and had been admitted to the workhouse of Strabane Union on the 13th September.

Letter from Poor Law Commissioners to guardians, dated 29th September, promising inquiry.

Letter from Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Supervision, enclosing resolution of the guardians, and requesting information.

Letter from Board of Supervision, dated 10th October 1851, enclosing letter from inspector of the poor of Glasgow, with five copies of warrants of removal in the case of E. M'Ivor. Inspector of Glasgow states that she is a woman of bad character; that the places at which she resided while in Glasgow are not in the city parish, but in Barony and Govan; that she had been six times removed from Scotland to Ireland, and once imprisoned for returning and becoming chargeable to the parish. Inspector encloses depositions of E. M'Ivor, and warrants of removal granted thereon, on five different occasions.

Letter from Poor Law Commissioners to Board of Guardians, forwarding the above-mentioned documents.

Resolution of guardians, dated 28th October 1854, stating that Elizabeth M'Ivor lived for upwards of six years in one house in Glasgow, and for three years in another house in the same street; and that she was removed but once from Scotland to Ireland before the present occasion.

Letter from Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Supervision, dated 8th November, enclosing above resolution.

Letter from Poor Law Commissioners to Guardians of Strabane, stating the course adopted.

Letter from the Board of Supervision to Poor Law Commissioners, dated 21st November enclosing letter from the Inspector of the Poor of Glasgow, stating that without further particulars it is impossible to identify the persons in whose houses E. M'Ivor is stated to have resided, and further stating particulars as to her previous residence inconsistent with her statement to the guardians of Strabane Union.

Letter from Poor Law Commissioners, dated 1st December 1851, to the guardians of Strabane, forwarding copies of the above-mentioned documents.

Further letter from the Board of Supervision to the Poor Law Commissioners, dated 1st December 1851, forwarding a letter, dated 24th November, from the Inspector of the Poor of Glasgow; a letter, dated 25th November, in reply to the above from the secretary to the Board of Supervision; and a further letter from the Inspector of the Poor of Glasgow, dated 29th November, from which correspondence it appeared that E. M'Ivor had again returned to Glasgow, stating, that while in the Strabane workhouse Captain Humfrey had given her 3 *s.*, turned her out of the workhouse, and told her to go to Glasgow; that on being taken before the magistrates she refused to give evidence on the subject, and used violent and abusive language, and that she had been committed to prison for 60 days.

Letter from Poor Law Commissioners to the guardians of Strabane Union, dated 8th December 1851, enclosing copies of above-mentioned documents, and requesting information.

Further letter of the Poor Law Commissioners, dated 31st January 1852, calling attention to the above letter, and requesting reply.

Resolution of the guardians of Strabane Union, dated 3d February 1852, stating that Elizabeth M'Ivor voluntarily took her discharge on the 29th October 1851; that if money was given to her it was not from the funds of the union; and that if E. M'Ivor was then in Scotland, the guardians think that that is the place on which she has the most legitimate claim for support.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Supervision, dated 11th February 1852, communicating the above resolution.

No. 106. Swineford Union.

Myles Grady. Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians, dated 9th May 1849.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to Temperary Poor Law Inspector dated 22d May 1849, directing an inquiry.

Letter from Captain Hanley, Temporary Poor Law Inspector, dated 25, May 1849, inclosing statement.

Myles Grady states that himself, wife and four children are now in Swineford workhouse. He went to England in 1824 when he got married and resided for 22 years in the town of March, Cambridgeshire, 18 of which he was a householder, and supported his family by labour, having worked for Mr. Richard Haughlin of Well Farm, farmer, for 14 years. Deponent and family got into bad health about two years ago, when all his means became exhausted, and he had to apply to the parish for relief, and for 10 or 12 weeks was allowed it. When almost quite well the relieving officer brought him before the magistrates (May 1848), and he was required to swear as to his statement. Deponent stated he was a native of the parish of Kilbeagh in Ireland, but had resided in the town of March 22 years. An order was made to pass him to Ireland; having no acquaintance he had no wish to return, and immediately removed his family to Boston, a distance of 40 miles, where he remained till the month of March last, when he returned to Outwell, within eight miles of where he formerly resided and took a house, which is now occupied by his daughter and son-in-law. One day in April last deponent went into the town of March, to sell mats, when he was arrested by the police, and given up to the relieving officer, and himself and family were taken to the workhouse, where they were kept for eight days and then brought up by the relieving officer to Liverpool and shipped for Ireland, having got 2 *s.* from him with some provisions and tobacco. Having come home to his native place and, having no employment, he had no resource but the workhouse.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians dated 1st July 1849, stating that they see no reason to think Myles Grady irremovable from March, under the circumstances stated.

No. 107. Thurles Union.

William Dollanty. Extract from report of J. M. Labarte, Esq., temporary Poor Law Inspector, dated 25th January 1849, relative to the removal of a pauper from Bristol.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the temporary Poor Law Inspector, dated 29th January 1849, directing an inquiry.

Letter from J. M. Labarte, Esq., dated 6th February 1849, enclosing depositions.

William Dollanty, being duly sworn, saith that he is a native of Kylenoe, in the parish of Maycarkey, where he at present resides, and that he is receiving out-door relief in the union of Thurles. About 25 or 26 years ago deponent went over to England to seek employment, but cannot say in what year he left Ireland. He landed at Bristol, and went to reside in St. Stephen's parish in that city. Was a married man, but had left his wife and children in Ireland. After he had lived in Bristol for a year or so, deponent sent for his wife and children, who thereupon went over to England and resided with deponent for about one year, or less than a year, when they left him and returned home to Ireland. Deponent has not seen his wife and children since they quitted him at Bristol about 23 years ago, as he best recollects. Since his return to Ireland, deponent has been informed and believes that his said wife is living with one of her brothers near Holycross, in the union of Thurles, and that one of her sons is living with her. Deponent's other children emigrated to America, and are now doing for themselves. After deponent's wife and children left Bristol, deponent removed from his residence in St. Stephen's parish to St. Augustine's parish, in said city, and continued to live in the last-mentioned parish for about four years. That he never resided in any part of England except in Bristol or suburbs, where he continued to live and earn his bread, as a hodman or stonemason's assistant, as long as deponent was able to work. About 20 years ago, deponent left St. Augustine's parish and went to live in the parish of Clifton, in the suburbs of Bristol, and continued to reside there until the month of June 1848. For more than 15 years of that period deponent lived in Insurance-court, Jacob's Well, Clifton. In the month of June 1843, being then in very bad health, deponent was admitted as a patient into the infirmary at Bristol, and remained therein for about three months, and was then discharged as convalescent. That he was afterwards admitted into the infirmary for the second time, and was finally discharged in November last; the said infirmary is not in the parish of Clifton. After deponent had been discharged from the infirmary a second time, he went to live at a house in the Hot-wells Road, opposite the Wesleyan Chapel, in the parish of St. Augustine's; that being then in very destitute circumstances, and unable to earn his bread, in consequence of continued bad health, deponent applied to Mr. Battershall, the relieving officer of Clifton, to be admitted into the workhouse at Bristol. His application was refused, on the ground that deponent did not reside in his (Mr. Battershall's) district. Having received written recommendations and certificates of character from Mr. Giles and Mr. Carter, both of Clifton (for whom deponent worked, deponent applied to the Bristol Board of Guardians, in the beginning of December, for admission to the workhouse, and was again refused. He was then informed by Mr. Mardyke, a magistrate and guardian, that he, deponent, had no claim to be relieved in the Union of Bristol, but should be sent home to Ireland at the expense of the union. Being quite destitute and unable to walk, deponent had no choice but to return to Ireland, and was thereupon allowed to remained in the workhouse at Bristol until

he could be sent home. Deponent remained in the workhouse for about a fortnight, and was then put on board of the "Sabrina" steamer and sent to Cork, where deponent was landed on 24th December. Just before the steamer sailed, deponent got 2*s.* from a Mr. Burrowes and 3*d.* from the relieving officer, which was the only assistance received by deponent in addition to the price of his passage, which was paid for him. That he walked from Cork to Maycarkey, and supported himself on the road by begging. When he applied to be admitted into the workhouse at Bristol, deponent thought he was entitled to relief, in consequence of his long residence in that union. Deponent would not have returned to Ireland if he could have avoided doing so, but was told he could not be relieved in England.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Poor Law Board, London, dated 10th February 1849, requesting to know whether the parishes in Bristol Union are united for the purposes of settlement.

Letter from the Poor Law Board, London, dated 22d December 1849, enclosing a copy of Mr. Weale's Report on the administration of the relief to the poor in the city of Bristol.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to J. M. Labarte, Esq., dated 3d March 1849, stating that there do not appear sufficient grounds for an appeal against the removal under the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117.

No. 108. Tipperary Union.

Hannah Ryan. Extract from report of vice-guardians, relative to the removal of paupers from Strand parish, London, dated 3d April 1849.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the vice-guardians, dated 11th April 1849, directing them to ascertain the particulars of the case.

Report from the vice-guardians, dated 15th April 1849.

Hannah Ryan states, that she left this country and proceeded to London about 18 years since, and has never been in Ireland subsequently, until sent here on the 3d instant. The first eight years of her residence in London she acted as out-door servant to a family named Chapman, residing in Tottenham Court-road, St. Pancras; after her marriage with John Ryan she went to reside in a house of her own in the parish of St. Martin's, where she kept a lodging-house, and supported her family by her own and her husband's industry for ten years.

In the month of April 1848, the employer with whom her husband had worked as a paviour for eight years, became bankrupt, the husband was thrown out of work, and, for the first time, applied to the parish for relief, which he obtained for one month, when employment offered and the relief stopped. In the month of June (during the period of the Chartist meetings in the city), the husband was again unemployed, again applied to the parish, and was further relieved for two months.

In the latter end of February 1849, the husband being again unemployed, he applied to Mr. Lockhart, the relieving officer, and was refused, because he declined going into the workhouse; he then went into the country to look for work, and the woman applied herself for relief and was taken into the workhouse, and kept there for three weeks, when she was transmitted to this union with her children, in charge of one of the parish officers.

The woman states, that she used every remonstrance against her removal, which was accomplished, as she states, by force; that she was not allowed to communicate with her husband, whom she believes to be still ignorant of her destination.

When the woman was obliged to go to the workhouse, she states that she gave up her own house, and removed her effects to a lodging-house at No. 11, Wild-street, St. Giles's, and that her husband resorted there; she has also a brother named John Mahony, residing at No. 8, Museum-court, Bloomsbury.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the vice-guardians, dated 7th May 1849, requesting further information.

Further report from vice-guardians, dated 10th May 1849, in the case of Hannah Ryan.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the vice-guardians, dated 21st May 1849, stating that they do not think there is a sufficient case shown in the facts stated, to found an appeal against this removal.

No. 109. Tipperary Union.

Julia Ryan and *Margaret Coleman.* Extract from the Minutes of the Board of Guardians, dated 17th and 24th January 1854, on the case of removal of two girls from London to Cork, and from thence to Tipperary.

Letters from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 25th and 31st January 1654, stating that they will order inquiry to be made into the circumstances of the case.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to R. M. Lynch, Esq., Poor Law Inspector, dated 25th January 1854, directing institution of inquiry.

Letter from R. M. Lynch, Esq., Poor Law Inspector, dated 30th January 1854, enclosing depositions.

Margaret Coleman, sworn, deposed to being nearly 18 years of age; does not know where she was born; was in London as long as she can remember, and lived all the time in the same place, Grange-road, Bermondsey, with her aunt, Mrs. Mary Keely, a widow; no recollection of her father or mother; about five weeks since she left her aunt's house; her aunt

aunt is an Irish woman, but does not know from what part of the country she came. After she left her aunt's house was ashamed to go back to her, and applied to a policeman in London to know if she could get to Ireland (her father and mother were Irish); and he recommended her to go to the workhouse, to which she went, and was admitted; does not know the name of the union; remained there two days, and was sent on board a steamer at half-past four o'clock in the morning, with several other persons from the workhouse; Julia Ryan was amongst the number. They were landed at Cork, and her fare was paid in the railway to Tipperary; does not know by whom it was paid. When she reached Tipperary, came at once to the workhouse, and was admitted by the master.

Julia Ryan, sworn, deposed that she was a native of Culleen, near Nenagh; went over to London last summer; was occasionally employed at work in the neighbourhood, but latterly did not get much employment, and her money was expended; went to the priest, and he gave her a little money; then went to the workhouse at Whitechapel; was there a few days, and was sent by steamer, with several others, to Cork; the day after they landed at Cork, Margaret Coleman and witness went to the police-office, near Barney or Blarney-lane, and a policeman took them to a court-house; thinks they call it the lord mayor's office; they asked her where she was from, and she told them; they remained there till night, when they were taken to the Bridewell, where they slept; and the next morning they went again to the lord mayor's office, from which a man, does not know who he was, took them to the railway station, and paid the railway fare for them by the three o'clock train to Tipperary; they came at once to the workhouse, and were admitted by the master.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, dated 10th February 1854, requesting that a communication may be made to the municipal authorities at Cork respecting this case.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 11th February 1854, stating that they have communicated with Government on the subject.

Letter from the Under Secretary, Dublin Castle, to the Poor Law Commissioners, dated 20th February 1854, conveying the opinion of the law adviser that it was a forced interpretation of the 111th section of the Prisons Act, 7 Geo. 4, c. 74, to apply its provisions to such cases as Margaret Coleman and Julia Ryan; that it referred to cases of imprisonment under sentence in county gaols, where, after perhaps a long incarceration, the prisoners on their discharge were without means of returning home; and it enabled the Board of Superintendence to furnish such persons, when discharged, with sufficient money for that purpose; but it did not contemplate a short imprisonment in Bridewell as a vagrant for 24 hours, and then a transmission at the public expense to a distant union, perhaps, of such a vagrant.

The law adviser thinks the Cork magistrates have adopted this course in self-defence, but without legal authority, owing to the course lately pursued by the English magistrates in transmitting alleged Irish paupers to Cork after a long life spent in labour in England.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners in reply, dated 28th February 1854, and requesting to know whether the opinion of the law adviser had been communicated to the justices at Cork.

Further letter from the Under Secretary, Dublin Castle, dated 3d March 1854, stating that the opinion of the law adviser has been communicated to the magistrates of the city of Cork.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 6th March 1854, conveying the opinion of the law adviser on the illegality of the proceedings of the Cork justices in the case of Margaret Coleman and Julia Ryan.

No. 110–11. Tullamore Union.

Thomas Culroy. A man named Thomas Culroy, a lunatic, was removed by the inspector of the Poor of the parish of Canongate, in Scotland, to the district of Philipstown, in this union, last month.

Copy of application of Thomas Noble, inspector of poor of the parish of Canongate, to the Edinburgh justices, for an order of removal, dated 10th July 1849.

Copy of order of removal of the justices of the peace of the city of Edinburgh, dated 10th July 1849.

Thomas Culroy, being sworn and examined. Deposes that he is a native of Ireland, about 28 years of age, unmarried, and by trade a labourer; born at Cherry-garden, Philipstown, King's County; his father was John Culroy, a labourer, and his mother, Bridget Collegan or Culroy, both dead; he resided with his parents till he was 19 years of age; he then came to Scotland, to the parish of Kirkleston, in the county of Linlithgow, where he lived for about 18 months; he thereafter moved to Newbeggin, in the county of Edinburgh, where he remained a few months; and next to the parish of Canongate, where he lived a few months, and was from thence removed to Morningside, lunatic, in 1842, and has remained there ever since.

Copy of certificate of Dr. H. D. Alexander, of fitness of removal of Thomas Culroy to Ireland.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the vice-guardians, dated 26th July 1849, stating that they have no reason to believe that the removal of Thomas Culroy was contrary to law.

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No. 112. Tullamore Union.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the vice-guardians, dated 12th July 1849, stating that the children of *Edward Cumin* are legally removable to the parish of Kilderry, the father not having obtained a settlement in Scoltand.

Further report from vice-guardians, dated 17th July 1849, requesting the Poor Law Commissioners to return the letter of the inspector of the poor of the parish of Roxburgh.

Further letter from the vice-guardians, dated 31st July 1849, stating the decision of the Board not to reply to the letter received by them from the inspector of the poor of Roxburgh.

Extract from the report of vice-guardians, dated 2d July 1849, desiring to be informed how long Irish labourers should be resident in England or Scotland, in order to entitle them to receive parochial relief in either of those counties.

Letter from the inspector of poor of the parish of Roxburgh, near Kelso, N. B., dated 30th May 1849, containing statement respecting Edward Cumin and Catherine Tornér, his wife, both of whom died of Asiatic cholera at Stackstruther, in this parish, the latter on the 30th April, and the former on the 4th May, leaving two infant children, Mary Anne, aged three years, and John, aged ten months. The said Edward Cumin, labourer, aged about 30 years, was son of John Cumin and Mary Dunne, or Doune, and was born in the parish of Kilderry, King's County, Ireland, and resided in the said parish for about 20 years. He came afterwards to Scotland, and resided 10 days in Dundee, two years in Falkirk, 20 months in Grangemouth, two years at Coppersmith, two years in Fife, two years in Kelso and Roxburgh parishes. Thus, it appears, he did not acquire a settlement in Scotland, and that his children must take the parochial settlement of their late father, in the parish of Kilderry; the children are presently residing with their uncle, James Cumrie, but as he has a family of his own, he has intimated that he found that he could not support them any longer.

No. 113. Waterford Union.

Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians on 23th August 1852, with reference to the wife and family of *William Matthias*, a discharged pensioner, who is at present a lunatic at Bradford Asylum, Yorkshire, and claim of the Board to one-half of the pension of William Matthias, as an indemnity to them for the maintenance of his wife and children, who are still inmates of the workhouse.

No. 114. Waterford Union.

Wife of Serjeant Coombe. Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians on 8th July 1847, relative to the removal of Irish paupers from Liverpool.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Board of Guardians, dated 21st July 1847, stating that the guardians have no power to forward poor persons landed at Waterford from Liverpool and other parts, towards the localities to which they belong. The guardians have no alternative but to deal with such cases as with the cases of other persons applying on the ground of destitution.

Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians on 7th July 1853, relative to the removal of the wife of Serjeant J. Coombe to his parish.

Extract from minutes of Board of Guardians on 4th August 1853, on the subject of the admission of the wife of Serjeant J. Coombe, of the 15th Regiment, into the Waterford Lunatic Asylum.

Extract from minutes of the Board of Guardians on 8th September 1853, respecting the disposal of the lunatic wife of Serjeant J. Coombe, of the 15th Foot, and declining to interfere in the matter, or hold themselves responsible for the care or support of the woman if transmitted to Waterford; and their determination of prosecuting such persons as may bring her to this union for the purpose of obtaining relief.

No. 115. Wexford Union.

James Coghlan. Letter from Charles A. Walker, Esq., enclosing statement of James Coghlan, dated 11th April 1850, and requesting to know whether the English authorities have acted illegally, and what redress.

James Coghlan stated that he and his two children, John, aged nine, and Ellen, aged five, now with him in the house, arrived in Wexford four days before he was admitted to the poor-house on 27th January last, from Cardiff, in Wales, from which place he had been shipped off to Wexford against his will, and was told at the time by the persons who brought him to Cardiff that they were sending him to Bristol, to be put into an hospital there. He states that he went to Wales some years ago, and had resided the last three years in the parish of Giviltegan, in Glamorganshire, working for an iron company in the village of Rumney; and that he lost his health and had his limbs amputated while in that service, and was removed while yet continuing in a dangerous state, with an ulcerated breast, and great general debility, and forced on first to the village of Merthyr, and then to Cardiff, to be sent off to Ireland. He states that he was told in Cardiff, by Dr. Andrews, that he had a legal claim on the parish of Giviltegan for life, from having lost his limbs in that parish. He says the name of the person who superintended the affairs of the company for which he worked

in

in Wales was Mr. Bellingham; that he is a native of the county Tipperary, and would feel thankful to the guardians to make inquiry whether the parish of Giviltegan is bound to take him back; and if so, he hopes they will cause him to be sent back. He acknowledges he got 1*l.* from the captain who landed him in Wexford, but was obliged to expend it on some necessaries for his children and the attendance on himself, and that it was all gone before he entered the poorhouse.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to Charles A. Walker, Esq., dated 17th April 1850, in reply, stating the law as applicable to the case in question, and observing that a case of appeal is likely to come to issue between the guardians of the poor of North Dublin Union and the guardians of an English union, the result of which may guide the guardians of Wexford Union in the present case.

No. 116. Miscellaneous.

Letter from A. Austin, Esq., Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, dated 8th September 1847, relative to the case of Michael Duignan, alleged to have been removed from the township of Rochdale, and to have died on board the "Duchess of Kent" steamer, on his passage to Dublin, and requesting to be furnished with a certified copy of the depositions and proceedings at the inquest.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to Dr. Kirwan, dated 9th September 1847, requesting to be furnished with a certified copy of the depositions and proceedings at the inquest recently held on the body of Michael Duignan.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to A. Austin, Esq., dated 9th September 1847, stating that they have applied to the coroner for the city of Dublin for a copy of the depositions and proceedings at the inquest.

Letter from Dr. Kirwan, enclosing copy of the examination and verdict in the case of Michael Duignan, dated 15th September 1847.

List of names of witnesses examined by John E. Hyndman, Esq., coroner of the city of Dublin, on Friday, 3d September 1847, at an inquest on the bodies of Michael Duignan, aged about 12 years, and a man, name unknown, aged 45 years.

Verdict in the case of Michael Duignan: "That the said Michael Duignan was removed in a cart, at seven o'clock in the morning of Wednesday last, from a fever hospital in the town of Rochdale, in England, to the railway station there, and thence transmitted by railway, a distance of 47 miles, to Liverpool, and then put on board the steamer 'Duchess of Kent' on the same day, as a deck passenger, in a weak and very exhausted state, in a state quite unfit to undertake a voyage across the Channel; and we find that his death was caused by the exposure of his weak and diseased frame to the cold of a tempestuous night on deck of the steamer.

"We cannot too strongly condemn the treatment of the said Michael Duignan by the parish authorities of Rochdale, and we attribute his death to their inhuman conduct in sending him in such state of weakness to Ireland.

"For self and fellow Jurors,
(signed) "*William Bain*,
"2, Coburg Place."

"I hereby certify that the above is a true copy.
(signed) "*John E. Hyndman*,
"Coroner, City of Dublin."

Copy of deposition of John Innes, commander of the "Duchess of Kent," steamer.

Copy of deposition of William Pritchard, the mate of the "Duchess of Kent," and of George Nicholls, the carpenter of this vessel.

Copy of deposition of Patrick Duignan, brother of the deceased Michael Duignan.

Copy of deposition of Thomas Waugh, M.D., and George Hatchell, M.D. and surgeon, touching the death of Michael Duignan.

Copy of deposition of Benjamin Crabbe, a cabin passenger on board the "Duchess of Kent."

Copy of deposition of Robert English, of Bexley New Town, in the county of Kent, cabin passenger on board the "Duchess of Kent."

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to A. Austin, Esq., Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, dated 16th September 1847, enclosing copy of depositions received from the coroner who held the inquest; also a copy of the Dublin "Freeman's Journal," and of "Saunders' News Letter," of the 4th instant, containing a full and accurate report of the proceedings at the inquest on the 3d instant.

Letter from A. Austin, Esq., Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, dated 16th September 1847, requesting the Poor Law Commissioners to procure him a copy of the depositions and proceedings at the inquest.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to A. Austin, Esq., in reply, dated 18th September 1847, stating that the depositions on the inquest on the body of Michael Duignan, had been forwarded.

Extract from the minutes of Board of Guardians of North Dublin Union, on 8th September 1847, calling upon Her Majesty's Government to take such steps as will bring the conduct of the English poor-law officers in the removal of the two paupers who perished

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on board the "Duchess of Kent," immediately under the cognizance of the law officers of the Crown, with a view to prosecution.

Extract from the minutes of the Board of Guardians of the North Dublin Union, dated 15th September 1847, condemning the interference of the Poor Law Commissioners in the inquiry.

Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Right honourable the Lord Mayor of Dublin, dated the 9th September 1847, stating that they have made application to Dr. Kirwan, for copies of the depositions and verdict in the case, for the purpose of transmitting them to England, in reference to an official inquiry which will be made into the facts of the case, as they affect the conduct of the poor-law authorities at Rochdale.

No. 117. Miscellaneous.

Jemima Doyle. Letter from the Poor Law Board, London, enclosing copy of a statement made to the Board of Guardians of Manchester Union, by Jemima Doyle, dated 3d December 1847.

Jemima Doyle saith, she and her four children were passed to her native parish in Dublin, by order of the Board of Guardians of the Manchester Union, about Christmas.

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Appendix, No. 16.

PAPERS relating to the Case of *Anne Leech*, removed to *Limerick* by the Parishes of *St. Giles and St. George, Bloomsbury.*

19, Westbourne-street, Hyde Park-gardens,
My Lord, 12 July 1854.

May I beg that you will lay before the Commissioners of the Poor-law Board the enclosed letter which I have received from the Mayor of Limerick, with a declaration made before him by a pauper named Anne Leech, who was, I am led to believe, illegally removed, under circumstances of great inhumanity, from London, where she had resided for 27 years, from the time she was but three years old, to Limerick.

I trust the Commissioners will institute an inquiry into this subject, and, as far as they can, have a stop put to proceedings by English parishes which inflict so much injustice, both on the pauper and on the ratepayers in Ireland, who are now charged with the support of a person who has passed the greatest part of her life here.

I have, &c.
(signed) *F. W. Russell.*

Viscount Courtenay, Secretary to the Poor-law Board.

My dear Sir, Limerick, 18 July 1854.

As Chairman of the Petty Sessions held for this city on Friday last, I have been requested by the magistrates presiding there to call your attention to the case of Anne Leech (a pauper from England), which came before us on that day, and to solicit your attention to it. For that purpose I enclose you an original declaration made before me, detailing the entire circumstances of the case, as also a copy of it.

We would feel obliged by your endeavouring to have this case sifted, as the line of conduct adopted by the guardians of St. Giles is prevalent in other unions in England, and which we consider heartless and illegal. Perhaps if you could conveniently call on Mr. Baines, the Poor-law Commissioner, and place the copy declaration before him, he might lend his assistance to check such illegal proceedings.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *Henry Watson,*
Mayor of Limerick.

Fras. W. Russell, M.P., London.

The Queen, Complainant; *Anne Leech*, Defendant.

Petty Sessions District of Limerick, County of the City of Limerick.

I, Anne Leech, late of Parker-street, London, but now in the City Limerick Gaol, do solemnly and sincerely declare, that she was formerly a native of Limerick, and left it about 27 years ago, being at the time only three years of age, and has ever since resided in and about London; and that about 14 years ago she married Thomas Tombs, a carpenter, and a native of England, and resided with him at Brompton until the period of his death, which

which occurred three years and seven months after her marriage; and that, in some years after, I married James Leech, a stonemason, a native of England, and who resided in the Coalyard, near Drury-lane, and who deserted me about seven years ago; and that I resided at a Mrs. Meares', in Parker-street, London, for several years last past; that about one fortnight before last Christmas I applied for relief to the workhouse at St. Giles's, where I was admitted, and remained there until the month of March following, when I was turned out, and was readmitted in the month of April following; that in the month of May last, I was brought before the magistrates at Bow-street, in London, and was examined, and declared the statement above made, and was removed back to the workhouse, where I remained until Wednesday the 21st June last, when the overseer of the parish brought me away in a cab, stating to me that I was to be brought back again, and placed me in a house opposite where the steamers start from in London, and kept me there until the following Saturday, when I was placed on board a steamer, without stating where she was going; neither did I know where I was going until landed in the city of Limerick, on Thursday the 6th of July instant, where I have neither friends or relations, and was taken up by the police, and but for that would have perished, being put on board the steamer clothed only with a thin gown and petticoat; and I declare, that for the last 27 years I never was in Ireland, and that during that period I resided in London, and the neighbourhood adjoining, without leaving same.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act passed in the 6th year of the reign of his late Majesty King William the 4th, c. 62, for the Abolition of unnecessary Oaths.

her
(signed) *Anne × Leech.*
mark.

Made and subscribed before me, this 8th day of July in the year 1854.

(signed) *Henry Watson,*
Justice of said County, and Mayor of Limerick.

Sir, Poor-law Board, Whitehall, 14 July 1854.

I AM directed by the Poor-law Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, forwarding to them a letter addressed to you by the Mayor of Limerick, together with the declaration of a pauper, named Anne Leech, made before him on the 8th instant, as to her removal from the parish of St. Giles, London, to Limerick.

I am directed to state that the Board will make immediate inquiry respecting the circumstances of this case.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Courtenay.*

F. W. Russell, Esq., M. P.,
19, Westbourne-street, Hyde Park-gardens.

Sir, Poor-law Board, Whitehall, 14 July 1854.

I AM directed by the Poor-law Board to forward to you herewith, for the consideration of the directors of the poor of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, and St. George, Bloomsbury, a copy of a letter which the Board have received from Mr. Russell, Member for Limerick, on the subject of the removal of Anne Leech from St. Giles's Workhouse to Limerick, in June last; also copies of the letter from the Mayor of Limerick, and of the declaration from the woman referred to.

I am directed to request that the Board may be furnished with such observations as the directors may think it necessary to make on the subject of this case.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Courtenay.*

T. D. Robinson, Esq., Clerk to the Directors
of the Poor of St. Giles and St. George, Bloomsbury,
Broad-street, St. Giles's.

St. Giles-in-the-Fields and St. George, Bloomsbury,
My Lord, Vestry Clerk's Office, 19 July 1854.

YOUR Lordship's letter of the 14th instant (26562–54,) and the accompanying deposition of Anne Leech, with the two letters relative thereto, were laid before the directors of the poor of these parishes at their meeting held yesterday.

I am ordered, with reference to these communications, to forward to your Lordship the report of James Webb, the relieving officer, as to the execution of this order, and the circumstances under which it was applied for.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. D. Robinson,*
Vestry Clerk.

Viscount Courtenay,
Poor-law Board, Whitehall.

Appendix, No. 16.

To the Directors of the Poor of Saint Giles-in-the-Fields, and Saint George, Bloomsbury.

Gentlemen, 18 July 1854.

With respect to the two letters, one from Henry Wilson, Esq., Mayor of Limerick, and the second from F. W. Russell, Esq., M.P., representing as cruel and illegal the removal of one Ann Leach, formerly a native of Limerick, and suggesting that inquiry should be made; and also with respect to the original statement accompanying the two letters;

I beg to report to you that Ann Leach, now aged about 30 years, is a native of Limerick; she is a person in good health and able-bodied, describing herself as a dressmaker.

From before last Christmas until near Midsummer, with an intermission of only a day or two now and then, although in health she continued to be always maintained at the charge of these parishes. I believe she was likely to remain a permanent charge, and not likely to get her living by her own labour.

I made inquiry as to her legal liability to be removed. The magistrate who made the order for her removal, also heard very fully her contradictory statement on this subject. I believe there is not the slightest legal evidence of any settlement in England; and as, until within two months of her making application at St. Giles's Workhouse, she had been dwelling in the parish of Saint Paul, Covent-garden, it is therefore clear that there was no exemption from liability to be passed to the place liable by law to the burthen of her maintenance.

When first she came to the workhouse she declared that she had never been married, and she never at any time mentioned having been married to Tombs. Lately she has mentioned having been married to Leach; but her account was so vague and unsatisfactory as not to afford any means of inquiry where Leach was born or settled, or as to his connexions or friends.

Even in the depositions now forwarded, the time and place of her alleged marriages are not so mentioned as to make it possible to verify what is alleged.

The removal took place on Wednesday the 28th June, not on the 21st. To the officer who conveyed her to the steamboat, she seemed decently and sufficiently clad; had it been otherwise, or had she represented that more clothes were necessary, she would have been taken (as is usual in case of insufficiency) to the matron, who would have supplied what was necessary.

I do not believe the woman was insufficiently clad, nor that any promise was made to bring her back. I know, on the contrary, that she was distinctly informed of the intention to pass her forthwith to Ireland.

Before the pass was actually applied for, she had also several times been made aware that she would be passed if she returned to the workhouse and continued chargeable.

This young woman seemed to me disposed to continue to be a permanent pauper, and the only alternative as to her future maintenance was to send her to the place liable by law to pay for her maintenance, or to let her always remain here, where she was entitled only to temporary relief as casual poor.

I may add, that although the charge here of maintaining Irish poor is very great, few passes are applied for, and those never in cases of a temporary nature.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. Webb*, Relieving Officer.

Appendix, No. 17.

Appendix, No. 17.

Further Communication from *Robert Pashley*, Esq., one of Her Majesty's Counsel.

It has been suggested that in the northern part of Great Britain the power of removal to Ireland is exercised with great forbearance, inasmuch as only one Irishman is removed out of three liable to removal. It certainly appears, that on an average of several years, the whole number of Irish poor chargeable in a year in Scotland is 30,905, and that of this whole number, no less than 17,622 are liable to be removed to Ireland, and that yet there are only 5,852 actual removals to Ireland out of that whole number, leaving, as is suggested, 11,770 Irish in Scotland, as to whom this forbearance is shown.

If this reasoning be sound, the humanity and forbearance of all English overseers must be indeed great. Each of several parishes in England relieves, in the year, as large a number of Irish paupers as are removed by warrant from all England to Ireland in the same period; and, on the average of all England, the proportion of Irish relieved to Irish removed, is very much indeed greater than three to one.

The following answers obtained by myself a few weeks ago, from an intelligent relieving officer, employed for many years in a populous metropolitan parish, in which are many Irish residents, will probably give a satisfactory explanation of the grounds of such forbearance as is actually shown, on the part of both English and Scotch poor-law officers, towards the chargeable Irish poor. "We try to get rid of them (the Irish poor) as much as we can, without taking out orders of removal. The removals are always attended with great expense. They

They cost us from 2 *l.* to 3 *l.* each. We avoid that. Sometimes, by making them work in the stoneyard, we get rid of them. After as many as half a dozen Irish families have been there awhile, a threat of taking them into the house, and removing them to Ireland, will make them all leave us. They probably go into some other parish frequented by the Irish, and apply for relief there; but, of course, we make no inquiry as to what becomes of them, if they leave us. Sometimes I beat off Irish applicants for a good while. They have universally a great dread of being sent back to Ireland. They will not come into the workhouse. An able-bodied single woman will at last come into the workhouse and be removed, but families will not. When they are taken into the house, an order of removal is applied for, and they are sent to Ireland. Sometimes after the order of removal is obtained, they will undertake to leave the parish instead of being removed to Ireland. We always allow them to do so at any moment before removal. All that we want is not to see them again. When we remove, we generally send them to Bristol. We have had them back as soon as the officer. They used not to be seen on board. Now, the officer's instructions are to see the vessel sail for Ireland, and to bring a receipt from the captain for the body of the pauper. The Irish who trouble us for relief are persons who have been in England less than a year or two. The migratory class troubles us. If the power of removal were taken away, I think that for a couple of months in the winter a good many would come in; more would come in than do now; but with the approach of spring they would leave; they like a rambling life. The loading and unloading of ships in the port of London, and the principal hard work all down the river, is done by Irishmen. Out of ten such workmen, seven or eight are Irish. In some London parishes, more than half, and in others, a large proportion of all the paupers relieved are Irish. They frequent mainly the lowest and cheapest neighbourhoods. One Irishman takes a room, and lets out to a great number of others the right of sleeping in it. I have had four families all giving me a reference to the same room as their abode. On going to ascertain the truth of their statement, I have found it true; the room has sometimes been without bed or bedding. So and so has slept in one corner, so and so in another. The Lodging-house Act has put an end to a part of this."

While I was in the Committee-room on the 10th July, I heard the evidence of Mr. Harrop, the clerk to the guardians of the township of Manchester. He certainly showed that the power of removal as exercised has the effect of removing to Ireland only a portion of those liable to such removal; but it seemed clear to me that this non-removal arose, not by reason of any forbearance of the parish officers, but inasmuch as by their threat of removal they were able to deter from receiving relief those who, if they had received such relief, would have been put under orders of removal.

Such a use or abuse of the power of removal is probably necessarily incident to its existence; and seems to me to be a great evil. The pauper, thus deterred from demanding relief for actual destitution, is either driven into another parish, and burdens the poor-rate there, or becomes a vagrant or a mendicant; perhaps conceals fever or cholera which exists in his family; and exposes society, so far as his case goes, to some of the principal evils which a well-regulated poor-law ought wholly to prevent.

The power of removal of English paupers in England is a power which would probably be approved of by all such parish officers as wish to keep the power of removing the Irish; and similarly impedes the uniform administration of the poor-law, and is at least wholly unnecessary and inconvenient as a test of destitution. My opinion on this point has been expressed in my book on Pauperism and Poor-laws, Chap. xvi, p. 319: "It may be objected that the proposed change in the law, by substituting an order for re-imbursement of relief in the place of an order of removal, would tend to make the indigent poor apply for relief in some cases in which the terrors of the present power of removal prevent them from doing so. It is probable that such would be the result of the change; but, on the other hand, there would be a corresponding economy in respect of all the money now expended in travelling, and other charges incidental to the actual removal.

"Neither would it be desirable to preserve any such terrors as those of the despotic power of removal. The existence of such a power over the poor does not furnish a convenient or just test of destitution in any case; and there is no doubt that in many instances it produces only mendicancy, vagrancy, and other offences, by the commission of which society loses much more than it can ever gain by the exchange of paupers between parishes."

In the sixth report of Mr. Charles Buller's Committee of 1749, in answer to question 5,206, Mr. Coppock says, "If it is a case of destitution; if a man has no means of labour to obtain a livelihood, and is in want of food (and I presume those are the only cases in which the Poor-laws ought to relieve); if you refuse that relief which is requisite, by making it so oppressive to that poor man's feelings, that he would rather beg, steal, or use any unfair means of getting a living, you do a great injury to society by allowing that test to be applied."—5209. "I have known men frequently say, especially the Irish at the present moment, and I have heard it said by Englishmen, I would rather die here than be removed there?"—5219. "What you mean is, that the horror of removal is so great, that people will submit to the most dreadful privations, and very often privations ending in death itself? No doubt about it."—5226. "When you say that a man is driven to shift for himself, and that men who are destitute are often driven to shift for themselves from the knowledge that they are liable to be removed, you do not mean that they prefer the alternative of starvation, but that in many cases they may resort to mendicancy and vagrancy, or something short of starvation, under the pressure of their necessities?—No doubt of it."

Another witness from Manchester, whose evidence I also heard before the Committee on the 10th July, speaks strongly of the humanity with which the law for removing the Irish

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is administered. It may, however, be observed, that such humanity as he spoke of must be rare, for it seems to involve a violation of the law. Probably Mr. Rickards is mistaken in supposing not only that an officer of the township of Manchester accompanies the pauper all the way to Ireland," which may be done, but that "money is given to the paupers on landing in Ireland;" and that in the case of young children, the Manchester officer does not merely land them at the prescribed Irish port, but takes them "to the place on which they have a natural claim." On what place the English parish officer thinks the Irish paupers have "a natural claim," I know not. The law does not permit English parish officers at discretion thus to establish a place of settlement for each Irishman removed. In respect of the ordinary compulsory removal of Irish under the Statute 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, English ratepayers are only liable to the expense of such removal of Irish paupers to the landing stage or quay of one of the ports mentioned in the statute. It is certainly clear that English ratepayers are not to be taxed in order that the benevolence of humane guardians or removing officers may, at the expense of others, bestow in charity what the law does not provide, by making a present to a full-grown pauper on his landing, or by conveying a child 50 miles from the port at which it is landed in Ireland.

The course of proceeding which has very generally prevailed under the 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, shows strikingly how helpless under it is the condition of the Irish pauper, against whom the power of removal is applied. Practically there is no appeal against any order for such removal. The appeal clause is in its very nature absurd, and has proved wholly useless. During many years after the passing of the Statute 9 & 10 Vict. c. 66, the Irish who had resided five years in an English parish, and who were in truth exempted by that statute from liability to removal, were nevertheless removed to Ireland, from every such parish, just as if they had not been entitled to the exemption. My own professional knowledge of what took place, enables me to state that, even in London, this view was generally acted on. At last, fortunately, the point arose incidentally on a removal between two English parishes; the appellant contending that five years' residence in an English parish did not exempt an Irishman from removal to Ireland. The case was that of Regina *v.* St. Giles without Cripplegate, and is reported in 15 Jurist, 1154. Counsel argued that "9 & 10 Vict. c. 66, applied only to removals in England." Mr. Justice Patteson answered the argument by observing, "By s. 8 it is to be construed as one Act with 4 & 5 Wm. 4, c. 76, and all Acts to amend the same, and therefore it will operate to prevent a removal to Ireland." It seems to have been held in that case by the sessions, that the young woman, the subject of the order, ought with her parents, who had resided five years in their parish, to have been sent to Ireland; but the Queen's Bench reversed the decision.

In a subsequent case of Regina *v.* Arnold, which was argued on the 24th May 1852, and is reported 17 Jurist, p. 300, and which arose between an English union and the clerk of the peace of an English county, and raised the question whether an Irishman sent to an English Lunatic Asylum ought to be maintained there at the expense of the union, or at that of the county, the point that the pauper, although an Irishman, was irremovable, by reason of his five years' residence in the English parish, was very properly conceded by the learned counsel for the union. The question was one on which no lawyer could ever have entertained a doubt; and yet, from the want of an available appeal clause, the law had for many years, in the case of Irish poor, been almost uniformly violated throughout the whole country.

With respect to Scotland, I cannot believe that the injustice and oppression experienced by the Irish in respect of removal from Scotland can be less than is found in England. In Scotland there is no power of appeal given against any removal of Irish poor: in Scotland the administration of the whole poor-law is not in any respect more humane than in England, and in some respects it is much less so: in Scotland no right whatever to relief is conceded to the destitution of the able-bodied: in Scotland, therefore, it might fairly be supposed, even if Dr. Alison and others had been silent on the subject, that the impotent old and young, the sick and infirm Irish, (for the impotent alone can obtain parochial relief, and are therefore alone liable to this power of removal,) must experience under it hardships and cruelties exceeding all those which are felt under the corresponding law in England.

My answer to question 6391 alludes to the diminution in the number of orders for removing the Irish which follow the passing of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117. That diminution is mentioned in the evidence of Mr. Hall, before Mr. Charles Buller's Committee in 1847. Mr. Hall's answers to Questions 6678–6688, show how the increase in the parochial expense of removing an Irish pauper to Ireland put an end in several London parishes to the greater part of such removals. The probable expense of continuing to relieve the chargeable Irish was estimated at less than the expense of their removal.

Of course removals from the county of Lancaster will be less affected by this consideration of parochial expense, than removals from London; and we accordingly find that out of 4,823 orders for removing Irish people from England in the year ending on 25th March 1853, no fewer than 3,840 were obtained in Lancashire. Parliamentary Paper, 87. Session 1854.

At Liverpool the outlay required for each order, is, I suppose, only a few shillings, consisting of some trifling fee on obtaining the warrant, and the cost of a deck-passage to Dublin. The orders obtained in Liverpool alone, during the same year, were 3,549, nearly three-fourths of the whole number obtained throughout England and Wales. Yet the Irish population of Liverpool cannot much exceed one-sixth of the Irish population found in England and Wales. At Liverpool, however, the parish officer saves the money of the ratepayers by removing a family to Ireland, at an expense of 10 *s.* rather than relieving them for ten days or a fortnight, at an expense of 10 *s.* 6 *d.*; whereas the same family, if chargeable in St. Mary-

Mary-le-bone, could not be removed to Ireland for less than 6 *l.* or 7 *l.*, and might therefore at less cost to St. Mary-le-bone be relieved there for such a time as would enable them again to find employment and support without parish relief.

This is the only explanation which occurs to me of the enormous disproportion between the removals from Liverpool and from other places.

The number of Irish resident in all Lancashire is only about one-third of their number residing in England. At the time of the census in 1841, the natives of Ireland found in all England were 299,404; of whom 105,916 were found in Lancashire, and 58,068 in Middlesex. The natives of Scotland then found in England and Wales were 103,238.

I wish especially to draw the attention of the Committee to the distribution in Great Britain of the Irish part of the population.

That population is mainly collected in those few localities from which the vast majority of removals of the Irish poor take place. An inspection of a recent Return of such removals (Parliamentary Paper, 87, Session 1854) shows that less than 20 unions and parishes, mainly situate in the metropolis and in Lancashire, furnish more than nine-tenths of all such removals. These are all populous urban places.

If we look for the details of the removals of Irishmen from the whole county of Surrey, we shall find that out of 107 orders of removal obtained in Surrey in one year, no less than 100 were taken out in five metropolitan parishes on the south side of the Thames.

Bermondsey	16
St. George, Southwark	18
Camberwell	30
Lambeth	21
St. Olave	15
TOTAL	100

In 20 counties, Berks, Bucks, Cambs, Cornwall, Dorset, Hereford, Hertford, Hunts, Leicester, Norfolk, Northampton, Nottingham, Oxford, Rutland, Salop, Suffolk, Warwick, Wilts, Worcester, York, East Riding, and in North Wales, not a single order is obtained. It is to be observed that this list includes many agricultural counties in which Irish labourers are considerably employed in hay time and harvest. In five other English counties, Bedford, Essex, Gloucester, Lincoln, and Somerset, there are only five orders obtained, exactly one order in each county. The 25 counties obtain five orders only out of the total number of 4,823 orders. Middlesex (that is, part of London) obtains 420 of the whole number of orders, and of the remaining 4,403 no less than 4,074 orders are obtained in 13 parishes, as follows:—

Chester:	
Stockport and Winall	51
Devon:	
East Stonehouse	27
Lancaster:	
Liverpool, Manchester and Preston	3,766
Monmouth:	
Pontypool	31
Northumberland:	
Newcastle-on-Tyne	24
Surrey:	
Camberwell and Lambeth	51
West Riding of York:	
Bradford, Leeds and Sheffield	124
TOTAL	4,074

In substance, the distribution of the Irish population in Scotland is like that in England. It is found mainly in large towns. The six towns, Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Paisley, and Greenock, with an entire population in 1851 of only 787,577, contributed in that year 4,474 removals to Ireland, out of 5,102 such removals from all Scotland. The remaining 628 removals being from the rest of Scotland, with a population of 2,101,165. And not only in England can the workhouse test be applied, but even in Scotland workhouses already exist, which can be used, if needed, as a test of destitution, in 44 parishes, including all the places in which the bulk of the Irish population of Scotland is congregated. The localities of these workhouses are mentioned in the Seventh Annual Report of the Board of Supervision, page v.

I fully expect the distribution of the Irish immigration into Great Britain to retain its present character so long as it shall continue to take place. It will be mainly to towns that the immigrants will bring their labour. It will be almost exclusively in English towns that the Irish will settle down as permanent inhabitants. I am aware that Mr. Coode, in his

valuable report, says that although the Irish have so greatly settled in towns, diminishing the decency and comfort of lodgings and enhancing its cost, yet, on a repeal of the power of removal, "the rural, and now well-fenced parishes, will admit to necessary residence even the Irish, who may thereupon be dispersed with greater regard to their own and their employer's convenience, and in places where they may gradually assimilate in habits to our own population."

Any such increase in the permanent settlements of Irish labourers in our agricultural districts, I, for one, hardly expect to see. The repeal of the English Law of Settlement and Removal would alone tend to produce a more free circulation of English labour in England, and so to diminish that demand which has heretofore called the temporary influx of Irish into our fields. Agricultural Ireland, like our own agricultural counties in England, will continue to supply an immigration of labourers seeking for employment mainly in the great centres of English industry, commercial and manufacturing. Such migrations from poor agricultural, to flourishing manufacturing districts, may be noticed elsewhere. Villermé, in his valuable "Tableau de l'Etat physique et moral des Ouvriers," tom. ii. p. 288, in a chapter, "Mouvement de la Population Ouvrière," points out the obvious causes of this migration from agricultural to manufacturing districts: and a little further on, in the same chapter, compares the migration of Germans and Swiss, from their own countries into Alsace, with these migrations of the Irish into Great Britain; "Tout comme les familles irlandaises, chassées de leurs habitations et en proie à l'indigence, se réfugient en Angleterre et en Ecosse."

As to the agricultural labour performed in England by Irishmen, and mentioned in my answer to Question 6410, I have just received the following information respecting mainly North Nottinghamshire and its neighbourhood: "Irish labourers still continue to come here and assist in getting the harvest; but we have not now (1854) such an abundance of them as formerly, partly owing, I imagine, to emigration. The mowing of wheat, instead of sheaving it, has also become very general, and to that the Irish labourer has not been accustomed. These things combined prevent so great an influx from Ireland as formerly. Last year there were instances of one or two who brought scythes with them, which showed a great desire for employment. The Irish have always in my recollection, for the last 50 years, traversed Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and Nottinghamshire, and no doubt other parts of the kingdom, where they could find employment. They always bargain for money, milk, and some beer (taken with them to the field). At times I have known them live entirely on milk and bread; the latter of which they purchased at a neighbouring town; and with the loan of an ass and a sack procured a supply for several days. Some of them occasionally bought a pound of bacon, but this was rare, perhaps once a fortnight. I have been told by Mrs. —— that she sometimes gave them broth, in consequence of which they one day asked for it, and there being none, they begged to have the water in which some cabbage had been boiled, and obtained also a little pepper and salt. They declared the mess excellent. Would any of our English labourers have eaten it? I have known the Irish harvester secrete his money, and beg his way through the country to Liverpool, reserving only 2 *s.* 6 *d.* (I believe it was) to pay his passage across the Channel."

Part of my own knowledge on this subject is the following: Three brothers, Brian, Thomas, and John Mahon, from a place called, I believe, Kilshalway, in the county of Sligo, had come over when very young, and had harvested together in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire for several years, and always behaved extremely well. In, I think, 1844, the youngest of them wished to stay permanently in England, as one of his brothers had done the year before, when he entered into permanent service at Chesterfield. I took the boy into my own service at Harness Grove, a house which is situate between Worksop, Notts, and Whitwell, in Derbyshire, and which I still occupy, and where, at that time, two of my sisters resided. Part of his duty was to drive a small pony chaise. He throve fast on English diet, and on his becoming too big for this work, he left me, taking with him an excellent character, and entered into service in the neighbourhood. After remaining some years in England, the last two in a place at Eckington in Derbyshire, he married an Irish girl from Worksop, and soon afterwards went to America on the invitation of his elder brother Thomas, who had preceded him in the endeavour to rise from the condition of an Irish labourer into that of an American landowner. John, on starting to cross the Atlantic, left his wife behind him in England, but before long he remitted money in a letter to enable her to follow him to America.

Instances like this make me feel a little shocked at hearing persons of some intelligence and of respectability speak of Irish immigrants into England as coming here in the main merely to obtain the better dietary of English workhouses, and to maintain themselves in idleness at the expense of English ratepayers!

Further answer to Question 6411: Whatever the future of Ireland during the next 25 years may be, I think it certain that causes now in operation must continue to act, and that mere pauperism there will diminish. That must be the result even if Ireland should have no worthier fate reserved for her than that of being converted into a great grazing farm, owned by a few thousand landowners, and if all the superseded inhabitants of the country should emigrate to Australia, and Canada, and the United States. Still more will Irish pauperism disappear, if any such change in the tenure of land should be established in Ireland, as shall not merely convert tenants into day labourers, but shall give to a numerous body of Irishmen an interest in the soil which they till. Then might we hope to see a new Ireland arise, consisting of peasant proprietors with something to lose, and of hired labourers with something to gain. "Nor would it be too much to hope, that when the number of

hired

hired labourers was duly proportioned to the soil on which they were employed, and a peaceful 'clearing' had made the country safe for English capital to dwell in, the rate of wages would be sufficient to establish a tolerably high standard of living; and that the spirit of saving, fostered by the desire of acquiring land, might prevent that standard from being again depressed through an imprudent increase of the population."—Mill's Political Economy; Chapter, "Means of Abolishing Cottier Tenancy."

In further answer to Questions 6424 and 6425, I would refer to Dr. Alison's paper on the present state of the law of settlement and removal of the poor in Scotland, and to his compendious statement of my views, as set forth in Pauperism and Poor-laws. The paper being out of print, I make an extract from it, pp. 13–15: "Mr. Pashley's plan is, to do away with all laws of settlement, and to relieve all the poor in the place which they choose for their own residence; in which case, of course, all vexatious questions, and all tyrannical proceedings, connected with the settlement and removal of the poor, immediately cease. The objections which have been stated to this proposal come under two heads, and the answers to both, given by Mr. Pashley, seem to me quite conclusive.

"First, it is said, that under this system hurtful encouragement will be given to numbers of the poor wandering up and down the country, and lodging at the public expense in the workhouses. To which he replies, that experience, particularly in the year 1848 in England, has already shown, that wherever workhouses exist, and there is a regular supervision of their arrangements, the condition of the vagrant poor may be made, without any undue severity, so much less eligible than that of stationary poor, as to remove any apprehension on this head. 'Each union workhouse has only to establish a vagrant ward, with appropriate dietary, and to administer a bath to each suspected vagrant, enforcing at the same time a complete change of clothing, and in other respects following the directions of Mr. Buller's Minute of 4th of August 1848, and there will be no fear of vagrancy overwhelming or injuring them,' p. 363.

"Secondly, it is said, that if the poor are to be relieved wherever they may present themselves, this can only equitably be done by means of a general fund, supported from all parts of the country; otherwise many and unavoidable accidents will cause the burden to be laid quite unequally, and a greater premium than ever will be given to indiscriminate clearances; and again, this centralising system involves a great risk of laxity of management, and great unpopularity, on account of the abrogation of the power which at present resides in the local authorities. To which objection the only satisfactory reply, as it seems to me, is that given by Mr. Pashley's further proposal, viz. that the sum required to carry out his plan of general relief to the poor, two-thirds only should be raised by a general pound rate, equal throughout the country; the other third by a further pound rate, raising in each parish a sum equal to one-third of its actual expenditure on the poor.

"'The contribution,' he says, 'by the parish in which any amount of pauperism receives its relief, of one-third of the actual outlay, will preserve a sufficient interest in the due administration of the relief fund, to secure to the country the indispensable services of the ratepayers themselves, in attending, by their locally elected officers and guardians, to the administration of their own affairs.'

"'Much inquiry and consideration,' he adds, 'induce me to think that a less interest than the payment by each parish of one-third of its own actual expenditure would be insufficient to keep in proper activity the attention of parish guardians at union boards, and of other parish officers and ratepayers, to the administration of the poor-law,' p. 371.

"'The adoption of this plan,' he further says, 'will leave unimpaired the existing duties and offices of all local functionaries, guardians, overseers, and relieving officers. The duties of assistant-overseers, in hunting out evidence for obtaining orders of removal, or for supporting them when appealed against, and in removing paupers under such orders, are the only duties of parish officers which it is proposed to abrogate,' p. 362.

"It seems to me, that from this change, we have every reason to hope for the following most important results: 1. The saving of very considerable legal expense. 2. The cessation of all the moral and social evils which have been stated as naturally resulting from the system of forced removals. And, 3, as Mr. Pashley anticipates, 'protection of commercial and manufacturing towns,' and it may be added, of agricultural districts also, against any such severe temporary pressure of the burden of pauperism as so frequently results in all branches of industry, from causes beyond our control; 'such as took place at Stockport and Nottingham, at Leeds and at Manchaster, in 1841 and 1842; at Sheffield and Birmingham in 1848, and at Liverpool, during the late famine in Ireland.' It may be added, in Ireland itself, and in the Highlands during the potato blight; and in some parts of the latter country, in consequence of the introduction of barilla and the failure of the manufacture of soda from kelp. 'Two-thirds of the whole charge of any such sudden and violent aggravation of the burden of pauperism would always be substantially removed by being shared by the country at large with the place at which they occur,'" p. 371.

Further answer to Question 6442. It seems to me that the change in the distribution of the burden of pauperism, likely to result from abolishing the law of settlement as to English paupers, will be much more considerable in populous places than any corresponding result of abolishing the removal of the Irish poor. I retain the views expressed in my recent pamphlet respecting the probable result of abolishing the removal of the English poor: "The tendency of abolishing the power of removal, is certainly to increase greatly the burden of pauperism in many parishes of the metropolis, and in large towns. In countries where no law of settlement exists, where the power of removal is unknown, it is mainly in towns alone that the burden of pauperism is felt. And there can hardly be a

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doubt that on a repeal of our law of settlement, and a grant of relief to destitution wherever found, the general law of the distribution of pauperism would at times be more strikingly exemplified in the commercial and manufacturing towns of England, than in any other part of the world. The resolution of a Select Committee of the Commons, already referred to, anticipates that an abolition of the power of removal will greatly increase the burdens upon 'particular parishes.' That such increase of burdens would mainly be found in town parishes there can be no doubt. Every one remembers how great a burden was suddenly thrown on the towns of England in 1846, by the passing of the statute (9 & 10 Vict., c. 66), which exempted from liability to removal those who became chargeable in a place where they had resided for five years. The class of persons so exempted was small in comparison with the whole number of paupers receiving parish relief; and yet the sudden increase of burden on the towns was enormous. Who can say how much greater an increase of burden may and will be produced in some metropolitan parishes and in other populous places, commercial or manufacturing, by the exemption from removal under the present Bill, of all destitute persons who require parochial relief? It would therefore seem reasonable, on abolishing the power of removal, to provide for the distribution over a much wider basis of the pressure of present and future pauperism in towns."—Observations on the Government Bill for Abolishing the Removal of the Poor, and Redistributing the Burden of Poor-rate, p. 19; 2d edition.

In my examination before the Committee I was asked (Questions 6443, 6444) respecting the practical evils in Scotland, arising from not relieving the able-bodied. The more obvious and important of such practical evils in Scotland, and elsewhere, may be briefly stated in the language of Mr. Mill (Principles of Political Economy, vol. ii. p. 559, 3d ed.) Conceiving it to be highly desirable "that the certainty of subsistence should be held out by the law to the destitute able-bodied, rather than that their relief should depend on voluntary charity," he says: "In the first place, charity almost always does too much or too little; it lavishes its bounty in one place, and leaves the people to starve in another. Secondly, since the State must necessarily provide subsistence for the criminal poor while undergoing punishment, not to do the same for the poor who have not offended is to give a premium on crime. And, lastly, if the poor are left to individual charity, a vast amount of mendicity is inevitable. What the State may and should abandon to private charity, is the task of distinguishing between one case of real necessity and another. Private charity can give more to the more deserving. The State must act by general rules; it cannot undertake to discriminate between the deserving and the undeserving indigent. It owes no more than subsistence to the first, and can give no less to the last." Our public provision for relief of destitution has enabled us in England to enact (5 Geo. 4, c. 83, s. 3) that every person placing himself in any public place to beg or gather alms, or causing any child so to do, shall be deemed an idle and disorderly person, and may be committed, by any justice of the peace, to the House of Correction, and there kept to hard labour for any term not exceeding one month. There would be extreme injustice in such a provision if the law refused relief to able-bodied destitution.

It is worthy of note that the refusal of the Scottish poor-law to relieve such destitution on the one hand does not, in all cases, apply to able-bodied women, and on the other does, in some cases, apply to children of tender years, as objects not entitled to relief. For instance, "an able-bodied woman deserted by her husband, an able-bodied man, is held entitled to parochial relief for herself, and her three pupil children. If she had had no child, or perhaps if only one child, she would not have been so entitled, but having three children, the burden was held by the Lord Ordinary to disqualify her from supporting them without parochial assistance." This is the case of Hay *v.* Doonan, decided by the judges of the Second Division so lately as the 25th June 1851. A humane attempt to mitigate the cruelty and imperfection of the Scottish poor-law! But in the case of an able-bodied man there is no such *jus trium liberorum*, according to Scotch decisions. "The case of Thompson *v.* Lindsay, 27th February 1849, assumes, as a *presumptio juris et de jure*, that a man who is able-bodied must have the means of supporting his children, however numerous they may be; and therefore he cannot demand relief on account of that burden; they are part and parcel of himself, and that he is of ability to support them, is a presumption of law which may not be re-argued, nor will the Court listen to any such plea as that of his being unable to find employment, so long as his health and strength are unimpaired."—Seventh Annual Report of the Board of Supervision, Appendix (A.)

The main provision of the two statutes, 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, and 8 & 9 Vict. c. 83, certainly do not dovetail into each other as they ought to do. The English statute authorises the removal of wife and children, whether legitimate or bastards, along with the Irish or Scotch husband and father. Such wife and children, though born in England, are liable to such removal. On removal to Scotland, if the husband should die, or desert his English-born wife and children, they would immediately be removable back to England. It appears from the Seventh Annual Report of the Board of Supervision for relief of the poor in Scotland, that the following case has recently occurred. A man and his wife, both natives of Scotland, went to reside at Sheffield, in the West Riding of Yorkshire; "the man obtained employment, and the two children were born during his residence there. He subsequently became disabled, and, being unfit for work, applied for parish aid. The parochial authorities of Sheffield removed him, with his wife and the two children, to his parish in Scotland. The man died soon after, and the widow, with her two children, became chargeable to his parish. That parish then threatened, on the plea that the children had been born in England, to remove them to Sheffield, while the mother, being a native of Scotland, could not

not be removed along with them. This proceeding would have been justified according to the decision in Barbour *v.* Adamson, because the children must fall on the parish of their own birth, and are not to be considered as *unum quid* with their parent. So an Irish family may come over to Scotland, some of the children may be born there, the father may die, or desert his family, what then will be the result?"

Cases may even be put in which the persons removed, under 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, from England to Scotland by an English order, would instantly be removable back under 8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, from Scotland to England by a Scotch order. For instance, a father born in Scotland may be removed from England with his bastard children born there; this is expressly provided for by 8 & 9 Vict., c. 117, and yet it seems clear that, on arriving in Scotland, the very same children will, under 8 & 9 Vict., c 83, be separable from their father, and removable to England as persons born there. If the father, born in Scotland, should, while residing in England with children born there, desert such children, they are respectively to be removed to their place of birth (Regina *v.* All Saints, Derby, 14 Queen's Bench Reports, p. 207); but if he should be in the same parish with his English-born children when they become chargeable, he may with such children be removed from England to Scotland; and if he desert them there, they will be liable to removal under 8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, from Scotland to England. If, in the case just put, the father should revisit his children in England, and again become chargeable with them to any English parish, even the birthplace of the children, the whole family may again be removed from England to Scotland, and so *toties quoties.*

According to the recent Scotch decision in the case of Barbour *v.* Adamson, children removed, according to the English statute 8 & 9 Vict., c. 117, with the mother, a Scotchwoman, from England, where they were born, to Scotland, would, on arriving in Scotland, become separable from their mother, and removable back, under 8 & 9 Vict., c. 83, from Scotland to England.

I point out the above anomalies as calling for redress by those who may propose that the power of removal between England and Scotland and Ireland should be preserved.

It is extremely inconvenient that a slight change in the circumstances of a family, occurring soon after their removal from England to Scotland, should render liable to removal back from Scotland to England some of those very persons who had shortly before been removed from England to Scotland.

If Parliament should not abolish the whole evil of the existing law of removal, but should apply a mere palliative, one or two provisions ought clearly to be made. First of all, the facility of acquiring an exemption from liability to removal ought to be greatly increased. To confer the privilege of irremovability, so far as removal from England to Ireland is concerned, it seems clear that a five years' residence, or whatever shorter term may be fixed on, should not be required to have taken place in any one parish; but it should suffice if such residence had taken place in the Metropolitan District, within the limits of any English borough, in any English union or parish, or in any number of conterminous unions or parishes. Perhaps such residence anywhere in England might reasonably be allowed to exempt from removal back to Ireland, and an Irishman who had once acquired this privilege in England should not lose it by any change of his residence here.

It must, however, be remembered, that the wider the privilege the more difficulty there would be in ascertaining the facts before applying for an order of removal. The pauper, though a competent witness, would always have a strong bias, and probably, even on appeal against such an order, there would sometimes be at least as much hard swearing as occurred, and still occurs, in appeals against English removals, where the pauper and his master at times tell such different tales about a contract of hiring and service to which they were both parties.

Whatever change, short of complete repeal of the power of removal, may take place in the present law, it is clear that the conditions and manner of such removal, and of appeal against it, must be greatly altered. My opinion is, that if removals be retained, the removing parish should only be allowed to obtain an order after giving in-door relief for a defined period, and that such order, together with a written statement of the ground on which it is obtained, should be sent by the parish applying for it to the guardians of the Irish Union to which the removal is to take place; that such removal should not in any event take place till the end of six weeks after the sending of such notice, in order that during those six weeks the guardians of the Irish Union may make inquiries, and if they see fit, give notice of appeal. Such notice, if given, must of course prevent removal till after the determination of the appeal. The pauper, when removed, should be taken to the union workhouse of the union so entitled to appeal. The appeal might, I think, be to the quarter sessions in England, just as against an English order of removal to an English parish. I have no doubt that the courts of quarter sessions, in Middlesex, London, Lancashire, and the West Riding, which would deal with most of such cases, would, upon the whole, do so to the satisfaction of both appellants and respondents. Justice for Ireland would be obtained quite as often as justice for England. The appeal would probably involve a little more expense on the average than is involved in English appeals. The expense of these latter differs greatly in different counties. In Middlesex they are not half as costly, on the average, as they are in the West Riding of Yorkshire. But whatever the expense of the proposed appeal, it must be remembered that such expense would be incurred, not merely for justice in the case of the few orders appealed against, but that the whole system of removal of the Irish poor would be infinitely improved. Much injustice and violation of the law, which has taken place since the passing

ppendix, No. 17. passing of 8 & 9 Vict. c. 117, would cease to exist the moment a really available appeal was given to a body possessing funds and having a direct and substantial pecuniary interest to prosecute such appeal. It will, however, be somewhat difficult to ensure such an interest in any Irish Board of Guardians, so long as the pauper's claim to relief in Ireland is wholly independent of any settlement, so long as that claim depends only (as it ought) on the place of his residence when destitute.

Northern Circuit, 20 July 1854. (signed) *R. Pashley.*

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ppendix, No. 18. LETTER from Mr. *V. T. Coombes* to the Right Honourable *M. T. Baines*, Chairman.

Sir, Parochial Office, St. George East, 27 July 1854.

In accordance with your request, I beg to enclose the returns ordered by the Committee on Poor Removal.

It will be seen on reference thereto, that the Irish inmates do not bear so large a proportion to the whole number as that set forth by me in my evidence; the discrepancy arose from my having to speak from memory. I may however observe that I consider the present proportion of Irish inmates much below the yearly average, this being a period of the year when many leave the locality for the purposes of field work, such as pea-picking, &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Valentine Thos. Coombes.*

Parish of Saint George in the East, 1854.

A RETURN of the Number of Poor receiving Relief in and out of the Workhouse, showing the proportion of *Irish* Poor to the whole Number, as near as the same can be ascertained.

Total number of poor receiving relief out of the workhouse, 1201.
Number of Irish poor included in the preceding, 285.
Proportion of Irish poor receiving out-door relief, about one-fourth.
Total number of poor now in the workhouse, 1,044.
Number of Irish poor now in the workhouse, 200.
Proportion of Irish poor now in the workhouse, about one-fifth.
Total number of poor in and out of house, 2245.
Total number of Irish poor in and out of house, 485.
Proportion of Irish poor as to whole number, about 22 per cent.

Number of the inhabitants taken from census of 1851, 47,362.
Estimated number of inhabitants for 1854, 50,000.
Number of Houses in parish, 6,400.
Number of inhabitants rated to the poor, 3873. This number includes compound rate-payers, 1373.

ANALYSIS OF INDEX.

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ABLE-BODIED PAUPERS:

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2. *Scotland.*
3. *Removals to Ireland.*

1. *Ireland:*

Particulars as to the number, &c. of able-bodied paupers in the Irish workhouses, *Power* 504–508——Altogether, on 22 April last, there were 29,402; *ib.* 504——Boys over 15 years old rank as adults, *ib.* 505——Distinction between the appearance of able-bodied labourers and able-bodied paupers, *ib.* 527——Few able-bodied paupers now in the Cork workhouse, *Jameson* 1213——Reluctance on the part of farmers, &c., to employ able-bodied paupers from the Wexford Union; uselessness as labourers of great numbers of those paupers now in the workhouse, *Flood* 2226–2240——Steps taken to employ them in the workhouse, *ib.* 2237.

Difficulty experienced in disposing of the able-bodied young men and women who have been reared in the Irish workhouses, *Lord Donoughmore* 2281 *et seq.*——Rarity of an able-bodied man applying for relief at the Clogheen Union when able to get employment out of doors, *ib.* 2325——Preference of some of the able-bodied men to the Limerick workhouse, instead of to labour out of doors, *Barrington* 2532–2538——Great numbers of able-bodied women and children in the Waterford workhouse belonging to families who have emigrated to America; instances occurring every week of their being sent for by their friends, *Devereux* 2625–2631——In the Irish workhouses at present, notwithstanding the test, large numbers of able-bodied paupers are to be found, *A. Campbell* 5027–5031.

Return of the number of able-bodied inmates of the workhouses in Ireland in the last week of April in five successive years, beginning with the year 1850, *App. p.* 565.

2. *Scotland:*

In Scotland, able-bodied paupers are not entitled to claim relief, *Smythe* 3321, 3322; *Adamson* 4455–4461——System under which parties able to work are sometimes relieved for a time in the workhouse; small number thus relieved, *Adamson* 4410–4419. 4455–4464——Slight amount of relief given in Scotland to able-bodied Irish, *Sir J. M'Neill* 4796, 479 7.

Propriety of admitting able-bodied poor in Scotland to the right of relief, *Pashley* 6401–6404——The exclusion of the able-bodied poor from a right to relief is a principle wanting in intelligence and disastrous in effect, *ib.* 6443–6446.

3. *Removals to Ireland:*

There are seldom, if ever, any able-bodied men among the paupers who are removed to Dublin, *Lindsay* 1676–1678——All classes, including able-bodied, are among the removed to Belfast, *M'Gee* 2662–2664——Scarcely any of the Irish paupers removed from Scotland are able-bodied, *Sir J. M'Neill* 3105, 3106.

Report, 1854—*continued.*

ABOLITION OF THE LAW:

1. *Repeal of the Removal Law recommended.*
2. *Evidence opposed thereto and in favour of the Law.*
3. *Objections to partial Abolition.*

1. *Repeal of the Removal Law recommended:*

Evidence in favour of an absolute repeal of the removal law, *Power* 455–457. 615. 655. 657. 661. 663. 771; *Lindsay* 1660, 1661. 1756, 1757; *Cusack* 1841, 1842; *Crawford* 2086–2089; *M'Gee* 2859 ——No mere amendment of the law will suffice, *Power* 615. 663–671. 702–704. 771; *Lindsay* 1756, 1757——Strong feeling in Ireland against the present Act, *Power* 664–671; *Lindsay* 1751–1755——It would be to the interest of humanity as well as of general policy to repeal the removal law, *Power* 688.

The repeal of the power of removal would do no injury to the English ratepayers, *Crawford* 2102, 2103——Witness reads to the Committee a copy of a petition presented by the Belfast Board of Guardians to the House of Commons complaining strongly of the present law, *M'Gee* 2640, 2641——Concurs generally with the terms of this petition, *ib.* 2642, 2643.

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2. *Evidence opposed thereto, and in favour of the Law:*

Importance of the principle of removal, *Flood* 2210–2222——With respect to the policy of the compulsory power of removal from Scotland to Ireland, witness has sought, and now states to the Committee, the opinions of parties most competent to arrive at sound conclusions upon the subject; arguments in these communications in favour of removal, *Sir J. M'Neill* 3044 *et seq.*——Witness has not received any communication adverse to the right of removal, *ib.* 3051——He does not adopt all the opinions contained in the letters alluded to, *ib.* 3064.

General opinion in Scotland that it would not be safe to abolish the power of removal to Ireland, *J. Campbell* 3183——Concurrence of witness in this opinion, *ib.* 3183——Opinion of an industrious Irishman in Ayrshire upon the subject, *ib.* 3185——Importance of the power of removal as an additional test of pauperism, *Smythe* 3307. 3326, 3327——Objection to any repeal of the law of removal on account of the better prospects of Ireland, and the probability of no great emigration to Scotland for the future, *ib.* 3515, 3516.

Mischievous effects apprehended from any abolition of the power of removal, *Carr* 5517–5520; *Chambers* 6930–6935. 6972; *Tubbs* 7152–7155. 7181; *Hibbard* 7276–7280; *Coombes* 7632–7635. 7646, 7647——The power of removal should not be done away with altogether, *David* 6677——The law of removal might be done away with, if parties only came over who are able and willing to work; otherwise its repeal would be a great hardship, *Salter* 6787–6792——Great expense to English ratepayers if the power of removal be taken away, *Dore* 7418–7420——Check upon Irish pauperism in the power of removal, *ib.* 7500–7504——Protection to English parishes in the present powers of removal, *Hicks* 7591–7593——Strong feeling generally against the abolition of the present law, *ib.* 7611, 7612. 7618, 7619.

3. *Objections to partial Abolition:*

Impolicy and impropriety of repealing the law so far as relates to England and Wales only, *Power* 667; *Rickards* 6376, 6377——Strong feeling in Ireland against any measure like that contemplated by Mr. Baines, *Power* 667; *O'Shaughnessy* 888–890——Great hardship to Ireland if the law were left in its present condition in that country and altered in England, *Power* 726, 727; *Crawford* 2027——Feeling of gross injustice in Ireland if the present law of removal were done away with in this country, as between parish and parish, and preserved as between England and Ireland, *Lord Donoughmore* 2356; *Barrington* 2559, 2560——If the law of removal were done away with in England, and retained so far as Ireland is concerned, it would be looked upon as very partial legislation, *Devereux* 2633——Witness was at one time in favour of the non-removal of the English poor, and that the removal of the Irish might be retained; but on studying the latter question he has become convinced of the injustice and impolicy of any partial legislation between the two countries, *Pashley* 6394.

Copy of petition handed in, presented to the House of Commons on 28th March 1854, from the Select Vestry of the parish of Liverpool, praying that the Bill introduced

Report, 1854—*continued.*

ABOLITION OF THE LAW—continued.

3. *Objections to partial Abolition*—continued.

duced by Mr. Baines for the abolishing in England and Wales the compulsory removal of the poor, &c., might not pass into law, *A. Campbell* 4958.

Witness sees no injustice in retaining the Irish law of removal, though the English law may be abolished, *Dore* 7493–7499.

See also *Agricultural Districts. Alison, Dr. Bell, H. G. Brown, Mr. Campbelton, Inspector of. Hart, Mr. Holden, Mr. Immigration*, 2. *Kirkwood, James. Labour. Liverpool*, 5. *Malcolm, Mr. Meek, John. Monteagle, Lord. More, Professor. Pashley, Mr. Scotland. Settlement*, 1. *Smith, Adam. Workhouses*, 3.

Acts of Parliament. See *Legislation.*

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2. *Position of the Poor-law Board in the matter.*
3. *Inoperative character of the Power of Appeal; great expense of the Process.*
4. *Special Cases adverted to.*
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1. *From Ireland.*
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1. *From Ireland:*

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Coleman, Margaret. Abstract of the minutes, &c. of the Board of Guardians of the Tipperary Union, &c. relative to the removal of this pauper from the Strand Union, London, to Ireland, and her admission into the union, *App. p.* 658, 659.

Coleridge, Mr. Justice. Doubt entertained by him as to the legality of removing a wife deserted by her husband, unless the latter appears before the magistrates, *Lumley* 143–145.

Collingham, Hannah. Case of Hannah Collingham, removed with two children from Whitechapel parish to Cork without the knowledge of her husband, neither of them at present knowing anything of the other, *O'Shaughnessy* 1075–1087.

Collins, Honora. Abstract of correspondence relative to the removal of Honora Collins and four children from St. Saviour's, Borough, to Cork, in 1849, *App. p.* 622.

Commission of Inquiry (*Scotch Act*). Recommendations on the subject of settlement by the commission which investigated the state of the Scotch poor law previous to the Act of 1845 adverted to, *Sir J. M'Neill* 3090, 3091. 3095–3097——Witness was a member of the Scotch Commission, *J. Campbell* 3166, 3167——Object of that commission, *ib.* 3168——Careful manner in which witness investigated the subject, *ib.* 3169——Witness was secretary to the Inquiry Commission from 1843 to about the middle of 1844, *Smythe* 3295——It was recommended by the commission that the Irish should not obtain a settlement under any circumstances, *Sir J. M'Neill* 4869.

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1. *Number of Complaints from Irish Boards of Guardians.*
2. *Complaints from Special Unions adverted to.*
3. *General character and result of the Complaints.*

1. *Number of Complaints from Irish Board of Guardians:*

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1. *Number of Complaints from Irish Board of Guardians*—continued.

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There have been many cases of complaint against removals from England to Cork during the last seven years, *O'Shaughnessy* 863-866——Reasons for the guardians seldom communicating with the commissioners in Dublin relative to alleged grievances, *ib.* 867-872——No correspondence has taken place between the North Dublin Union and English parishes except through the Irish Commissioners, *Cusack* 1793-1795. 1921——Complaints made by the Belfast guardians to the Irish Commissioners relative to the removals from Scotland; transmission of these complaints to the Board of Supervision; notice taken by them of the same, *M'Gee* 2739-2741. 2743, 2744.

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Exaggerated character of the complaints made against removals from Scotland to Ireland, *Smythe* 3302, 3303——Out of 46,822 removals (by warrant and voluntary arrangement) from Scotland to Ireland since 1845, only eighteen have been complained against before the Board; question as to about three only of these removals having been illegal, *Walker* 4221-4223. 4238-4241. 4277, 4278——Besides these eighteen cases of complaint nine other cases have been complained of before the present committee, *ib.* 4221——Inference (as drawn from the exceedingly few cases of complaint) that the allegations of hardship and illegality are very much exaggerated, *ib.* 4242-4246——Examination as to what extent the paucity of complaints may be accounted for by an idea, erroneous or otherwise, entertained by Irish Boards of Guardians, that redress was not easily obtainable, *ib.* 4254-4270. 4289-4293.

See also *Alison, Dr.* *Board of Supervision (Scotland).* *Inquiries into Complaints.*

Conden Family. Case of a woman named Conden and four children, who, after being removed to Cork, returned again, her fare back being paid by the mayor of the place, *Tubbs* 7168-7170——Re-transmission from Cork to London of a woman named Conden and five children adverted to, *Rankley* 7836, 7837.

Conduct or Conveyance of Paupers:

1. *England and Scotland to Ireland; Alterations suggested.*
2. *England to Scotland.*
3. *Scotland to England.*

1. *England and Scotland to Ireland; Alterations suggested:*

The practice is to convey the pauper on shipboard, and there leave him, *Lumley* 85——From Scotland the paupers are sometimes conducted by a person sent with them to their own parish, *Power* 393-396——Custom in London of sending a person to Cork in charge of removed paupers, *O'Shaughnessy* 1068——Reference to the arduous duties of the persons who come over to Cork in charge of the paupers, *Duross* 1566-1568——Small number of cases in which the people conveyed to Dublin have documents or any thing to show that they have been legally removed, *Lindsay* 1667-1672——Reference to the first annual report of the Board of Supervision to Parliament, as containing a circular issued to inspectors, to the effect that every care should be taken to conduct the removals in a safe and humane manner, *ib.* 2988-2991. 2999.

Witness gives a duplicate of the removal order to the removing officer at Liverpool, to give to the captain of the vessel, but cannot of his own knowledge state that the officer does so, *Evans* 5404-5408——Care taken to conduct removals from Manchester to Ireland with humanity, *Rickards* 6300——Belief that Mr. Rankley, of London, delivers up the paupers to the mayor at the Irish port, and that they are forwarded thence by some authority to their proper parishes, *Hibbard* 7356-7364——Course pursued in passing the paupers from St. James's parish to Ireland; practice of the conductor to accompany the parties, and deliver them over to some authority on landing, *Dore* 7429-7442.

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1. *England and Scotland to Ireland, &c.*—continued.

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The duplicate of the warrant is sent to Cork with the pauper, and is generally sent back to witness, *Rankley* 7739, 7740. 7752-7754——Particular cases in which parties removed from London to Cork have been further cared for or conveyed to their ultimate destination by the person in charge of them, *ib.* 7743-7748——The duplicate is generally given to the captain, and re-posted to witness when the paupers are safely landed in Dublin, *ib.* 7752——Regulations made by the magistrates for removal; discretion of the parishes to employ whom they please, *ib.* 7767.

The parties removed should be passed direct from the care of one Poor-law authority in England to that of another in Ireland, *Power* 389-393. 397 *et seq.* 458. 486, 487. 561-566; *Tubbs* 7259; *Hibbard* 7353, 7354. 7363——In removals no document is, but should be, transmitted from England to Ireland with the removed party, *Power* 392, 393. 397-402. 458; *Lindsay* 1673——A certificate duly signed would hardly be a sufficient proof of proper removal without some party in charge, *Lindsay* 1703, 1704——A copy of the justice's order, and a statement of the cause of removal, should be forwarded to the place of birth, *Harrop* 6256, 6257——There should be some party to accompany each pauper to his ultimate destination, *ib.* 6258——Expense of sending a party with the pauper all the way to his ultimate destination in Ireland, as in England, *Dore* 7456-7459.

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3. *Scotland to England:*

In removals from Scotland to England the paupers are only passed to the frontier, *Lumley* 263-265——Removals from Scotland to England are never complained against, *Adamson* 4575, 4576——Witness recollects only one case of complaint (now under investigation) against removal from Scotland to England, *Sir J. M'Neill* 4672.

See also *Baker, Mr.* *Channel Passage.* *Constables.* *Contracts for Conveyance.* *Depôts.* *Frost, Mr.* *Notice of Removal.* *Place of Birth.* *Ports (Ireland)*, 1. *Rules and Regulations.*

Connolly, Martin. Report of the master of the workhouse of the Galway Union, correspondence, &c., relative to the removal of Martin Connolly, an insane man, from Inveskip (Renfrew) to Galway in 1853, *App. p.* 646.

Connor, Ellen. Case of Ellen Connor forcibly removed to Cork from the parish of St. Luke's, in 1853, after her confinement in St. Luke's hospital; and without being allowed to communicate with her husband; belief as to her marriage, *O'Shaughnessy* 1024-1033. 1024-1039.

Connor, Mary. Case of Mary Connor, who came over to Newport with her husband, a man in the last stage of consumption, and who has since died; the reason of their coming was that they might obtain better relief than in Ireland, *Salter* 6735.

Connor, Michael. Case of Michael Connor, resident for nine years near Drury-lane, London, and forcibly removed to Cork, without his family, by the parish authorities of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, after temporary relief applied for through sickness, *O'Shaughnessy* 1051-1066.

Conolly, Catherine. Case of Catherine Conolly, who was removed to Dublin from the parish of St. Luke's, Middlesex, after residing there nineteen years, *Crawford* 1955-1961—— Extracts from proceedings, correspondence, &c. of the North Dublin Union relative to the removals of Catherine Conolly and children, *App. p.* 636, 637.

Consolidation of Acts. Suggested consolidation of the numerous Acts relating to the relief of the poor, there having been ninety Acts passed previously to the 1 & 2 Vict., and forty subsequently thereto, *Flood* 3164.

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Constables. Difficulty which has arisen in regard to the clause giving the power of a constable to the person in charge of the pauper, *Lumley* 85——Reference to the party employed by witness at Newport to assist in taking the paupers from the workhouse to the steam packet; his authority considered, *Salter* 6816. 6818–6824——Power of constable vested by the warrant in witness or any other person having the charge of removal, *Rankley* 7802–7808.

Continental Population. Condition of some of the continental population adverted to in connexion with the acreage and cultivation of the countries, *Sir J. M'Neill* 4934, 4935.

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Coode, George. Reference to Mr. Coode's opinion as to the inducements held out to vagrancy by the system of removal at the expense of the parish, *Power* 724——Reference also to certain economic reasons adduced by him for abrogating the law of removal as regards Irishmen in England, *ib.* 725.

Coombes, ——. Extract from minutes of guardians of the Waterford Union in 1847, relative to the removal of Irish paupers from Liverpool, more particularly as to the removal of the wife of Sergeant T. Coombes, of the fifteenth regiment, she being a lunatic, *App. p.* 660.

Coombes, Thomas Valentine. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Second relieving officer of the parish of St. George-in-the-East, Middlesex, 7620, 7621——Great number of Irish paupers in this parish; number relieved in nine months in 1848; 7622–7631. 7641——Strong objection to the abolition of the law of removal, 7632–7635. 7646, 7647——Insufficiency of the workhouse test as a check on Irish pauperism, 7636–7640——The benefit of the Irremovable Act is given to the Irish in witness's parish, 7642——Inexpediency of reducing the period of five years with regard to irremovability, 7643, 7644.

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Cooney, Rose Ann. Case of Rose Ann Cooney, removed in 1854, after a residence of seven years in one street in Glasgow, *M'Gee* 2667–2675. 2685——This case adverted to, *Walker* 4182——Explanation relative to the removal of Rose Ann Cooney to Belfast, *Adamson* 4757–4759.

Cork:

1. *Generally, as to Removals thither.*
2. *Protection to Paupers on Landing.*
3. *Particulars relative to the Workhouse and Union.*
4. *Fares and Passengers to England.*
5. *Transmissions from Cork.*

1. *Generally as to Removals thither:*

Considerable number of paupers transmitted to Cork who do not apply for relief; how this may be accounted for, *O'Shaughnessy* 897–903——The several cases of harsh or illegal removal to Cork adduced by witness have not been selected by any particular direction, *ib.* 1045——They have all occurred within the last few years, *ib.*——Witness is prepared with twenty-seven cases altogether, *ib.* 1103——Several paupers land at Cork without ever applying for relief, *Jameson* 1168——Average number of paupers arriving weekly in Cork by steamer, *Duross* 1234. 1241–1243. 1389–1392——Small number of those who have spent five or six years in England that have any friends in Cork when removed thither, *ib.* 1441——Practice formerly in delivering the paupers at Cork, *Rankley* 8417.

2. *Protection to Paupers on Landing:*

Particulars as to the duties of witness as a constable of the Irish constabulary at Cork, *Duross* 1217–1221. 1380. 1414–1425——He has held the office for five years, *ib.* 1222–1224——Many paupers when landed have no other resource than the Bridewell for protection, *ib.* 1252–1256. 1406–1413——How far the Poor-law authorities at Cork interfere in protecting destitute paupers on arrival from England, *ib.* 1393–1397. 1406–1413. 1426, 1427. 1449——Nature of relief afforded by the guardians at Cork to destitute paupers landed there, *ib.* 1412, 1413.

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Explanation as to the destitute paupers being removed to the Bridewell and not to the workhouse; authority under which witness acts in the matter, *Duross* 1434-1440. 1444-1465. 1472-1485——Particulars as to the Bridewell, *ib.* 1453-1455——The expense of the paupers in the Bridewell is charged on the Cork city rates, *ib.* 1489-1491.

Further evidence as to sending paupers to the Bridewell for begging or vagrancy, *Duross* 1492-1502. 1558, 1559—Average number of paupers out of those arriving weekly at Cork who are put into Bridewell for protection, *ib.* 1503-1512——In the books at the Bridewell there is no distinction made whether the paupers are from London or not, *ib.* 1513-1517——Particulars as to the number weekly applying to the magistrates for relief, *ib.* 1551-1557——The paupers are entered as beggars in the books of the Bridewell, *ib.* 1562-1565.

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1. *Names, &c. of the several Parishes.*
2. *Irish Pauperism in Glasgow.*
3. *Amount assessed for the Poor.*
4. *Removals.*
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1. *Names, &c. of the several Parishes:*

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Green, Andrew. Case of Andrew Green, a native of Ireland, who left that country at the age of eight years, and after being married and living in Scotland till thirty-six years old, was removed with his family to Belfast, on his applying for relief, through sickness, *Gordon* 3687.

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Haggerty, Margaret. Case of Margaret Haggerty, aged seven years, accidentally separated from her father without his knowledge in 1853, and removed to Cork by the parish authorities of Whitechapel, *O'Shaughnessey* 938-945. 1040-1042——Further particulars in explanation of the case of the child; she has since been sent back to London, her father paying for her return, *ib.* 2147-2159.

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Hanwright, Mary Anne. Case of Mary Anne Hanwright, who was twice passed to Dublin from Marylebone parish, to which she returned each time, *Tubbs* 7162, 7163.

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1. *Evidence showing the harsh Operation of the Law generally.*
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1. *Evidence showing the harsh Operation of the Law generally:*

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2. *Evidence to a contrary Purport:*

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Harrington, Catherine. Case of Catherine Harrington, a widow, who, with four children, was recently removed to Cork from the parish of St. George's (West), London; she is a native of Kenmare, and deposed to having lived nine years in St. George's parish, *O'Shaughnessy* 974-983.

Harris, Anne. Particulars as to the removal to Cork of Anne Harris, or rather Macarthy, together with her illegitimate child, from St. Pancras parish, whilst Harris, whom she incorrectly called her husband, was suffering from an accident in the Middlesex Hospital; discrepancy in the statements of this woman adverted to; she and her child have since died, *O'Shaughnessy* 984-1013——Abstract of correspondence from the guardians of the Cork Union relative to this removal, *App. p.* 625.

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Harrop, Mr. Witness concurs in the evidence of Mr. Harrop relative to Manchester, *Rickards* 6294–6296.

Hart, Mr. Statement of Mr. Hart, the vestry clerk of Liverpool, that if the power of removal were abrogated, immigration would set in to a large extent, encouraged not only by the lowness of the fares, but also by assistance given them by parties in Ireland to come over in order to be supported by the public in Liverpool, and also by the total absence of out-door relief in Ireland, *A. Campbell* 5021–5026.

Harvey, Jane. Case of Jane Harvey, removed to Dublin, having been separated from two children in employment in London, her husband being a soldier at the Cape of Good Hope, *Crawford* 2117–2127.

Hayes, Mary. Great hardship in the removal of a woman, named Mary Hayes, with her five children, from Newport to Waterford, *Devereux* 2563 *et seq.*

Health of Paupers. See *Medical Certificates.* *Medical Examinations.*

Heas, Mary. Witness delivers in a document, duly declared before a magistrate, relative to the case of Mary Heas, an inmate of the Clonakilty Union; charge of extreme harshness preferred therein against the Poor-law authorities at Newport in her removal thence, *Maguire* 6194.

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Hogan, Alice. Case of Alice Hogan, removed from Liverpool, who was, not sworn, but on applying for relief, was sent over to Dublin, *Cusack* 1895, 1896.

Hogan, John. Abstract of correspondence from Celbridge Union relative to the removal of John Hogan from Ashton-under-Lyne to Ireland in 1853, *App. p.* 621.

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Holland, Ann. Case of Ann Holland, widow, and three children, removed to Cork in 1854, from the parish of Whitechapel, where she had lived for sixteen years, *O'Shaughnessy* 1049–1051——Correctness of the statement made by Ann Holland, *ib.* 2160.

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Holland, William. Reference to the case of William Holland, eighty-seven years of age, who lived in England thirty-six years, but, on making application for relief, was sent to Dublin, *Cusack* 1835, 1836——Particulars of this removal; Holland was sent from Birmingham, and was taken to Dublin instead of to Cork, where he was born, *Crawford* 1950–1954.

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Holt, Elizabeth, and Others. Abstract of correspondence from the guardians of the North Dublin Union relative to the removal of Elizabeth Holt, Elizabeth Moore, and other female paupers from Bolton in 1847, *App. p.* 627–631.

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Immigration:

1. *Number of Irish who have come to England and Scotland of late Years.*
2. *Numbers likely to come in the event of a Repeal of the Removal Law.*

1. *Number of Irish who have come to England and Scotland of late Years:*

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Immigration—continued.

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of Irish labourers, *Smythe* 3307–3330. 3393. 3445. 3509——There need be no apprehension of a pauper emigration from Ireland to Scotland in consequence of a change of the law, *Gordon* 3920, 3921.

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Instances constantly occurring of men leaving their wives and families in Ireland to be supported by the union, coming to England and earning high wages, then transmitting all their earnings to their wives, and afterwards applying for relief in order to be sent home, *Lord Donoughmore* 2300–2306——In one year, in the Clogheen Union, out of a population of 33,000, there were forty of these cases, *ib.* 2302–2306. 2316–2318——Circumstance of parties removed from Scotland having been admitted into the Belfast Union who have had sums of money in their possession, *M'Gee* 2876. 2939–2943——Applications for removals are sometimes made at Glasgow by labourers and others, who when refused contrived to pay for themselves, *Adamson* 4555. 4760——Witness has never aided the removal of any one from Newport at all likely to pay for his own removal, *Salter* 6853–6856.

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1. *England and Scotland.*
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1. *England and Scotland:*

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Industry of Irish. Instances of Irish who have come to Scotland having realised a good deal of capital in various ways, and risen thereby in the social scale, *Gordon* 3965–3968——Industrious character generally of the Irish poor, *Adamson* 4392–4397——Large number of industrious Irish who acquire a settlement in Glasgow, *ib.* 4710, 4711. 4721–4723——Statistics of Irish industry in four districts of Liverpool, as furnished by a clergyman and agents of the Scripture Readers' Society, *A. Campbell* 4998–5002——The great majority of the Irish population at Liverpool live by their labour, *Carr* 5718, 5719.

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Injustice. The removals often involve much injustice to Ireland as a rate-paying country, *Power* 368——Injustice of removals when the parties have lived nearly all their lives in England, *ib.* 669–671. 702–704——Impracticability at the present moment of carrying out the law with justice as regards Ireland, *A. Campbell* 5231, 5232——It is as unjust to send paupers to Irish ports to which they do not belong, as to maintain them at Liverpool, *Carr* 5749–5752.

See also *Abolition of the Law*, 3. *Hardships of Removals. Illegal Removals. North Dublin Union. Ports* (*Ireland*), 2.

Inland Parishes (*Scotland*). Large proportion of removals from towns in Scotland, as compared with the removals from country parishes, *Sir J. M'Neill* 3020, 3021——Smaller number of Irish paupers in the inland parishes than along the Ayrshire coast, *J. Campbell* 3182.

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Inspectors (*Ireland*). Duties of witness as Poor-law Inspector at Dublin, *Crawford* 1928–1930.

Inspectors (*Scotland*). Regulations issued by the Board of Supervision in 1845, as to the duties of inspectors, *Sir J. M'Neill* 2696–2698——Power of the Board to dismiss an inspector for the improper performance of his duties; how acted upon, *Walker* 4273. 4281–4283——Copy of rules and forms relating to books kept by inspectors of the poor in Scotland, *App. p.* 596–999.

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IRELAND:

1. *Growing Prosperity of the Country.*
2. *Operation of the Poor-law System.*
3. *Statistics of Removals from England and Wales.*

1. *Growing Prosperity of the Country:*

Immense decrease in the amount of pauperism in Ireland, since the time of the famine, *Power* 632-635——Diminution of evictions of tenants, *ib.* 839, 840——Scarcity of labour, and amount of emigration, *Duross* 1466–1471——Feeling among the rural guardians that the country is gradually improving; present demand for labour, *Crawford* 2099, 2100——Tillage, within the last few years, has greatly fallen off in witness's neighbourhood, but he anticipates ere long a considerable increase in cultivation, *Lord Donoughmore* 2307–2310——The country is greatly benefited by the present emigration, by higher rate of wages, and by the small farms being thrown into larger ones, *Barrington* 2554–2557——No difficulty is experienced in obtaining tenants for farms, as was the case some years since, *ib.* 2555.

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2. *Operation of the Poor-law System:*

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Friendly feeling which exists between the Irish unions, *Lindsay* 1737–1741——In all cases where the North Dublin Union guardians require further investigation, the Irish Commissioners have afforded them every facility, *Cusack* 1920——No power of removal exists in Ireland; any such taking place for the purpose of chargeability to another union, is held by some legal authorities as a misdemeanour, and punishable as such, *Lord Donoughmore* 2276, 2277——The Irish Poor Law system is an admirable one, and works with great ease, *ib.* 2277——To meet the difficulties which a system of non-removal would otherwise occasion in Ireland, a kind of modified settlement is adopted; that is if the united residences of a pauper within an electoral division amount to twelve months out of the three preceding years, he is considered chargeable to that division so long as he remains in the union, *ib.* 2277——Advantage of Ireland over England in the unions bearing a fairer proportion to one another, instead of being in single parishes, *ib.* 2342——Scarcity of English and Scotch paupers in Ireland, *Carr* 5579, 5580.

3. *Statistics of Removals from England and Wales:*

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Return showing the number of paupers who became chargeable to these twelve unions during the year ended 25 March last, on being removed from England or Scotland; showing also the number of those now receiving relief in those unions who became chargeable at any time up to the present, on their being removed from England or Scotland; distinguishing the number of persons who were born in the union to which they became chargeable, from the number who were not so born, *App. p.* 560.

Return showing the number of paupers who became chargeable to the several unions throughout Ireland, each union being separely specified, during the year ended 25 March last, in consequence of having been removed from England or Scotland; showing also the number of persons at present receiving relief in such unions, who became chargeable at any time up to the present, on their removal from England or Scotland, *App. p.* 560–562.

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Irremovability.

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Irremovability. Irremovability is acquired by a five years' residence in any one parish, *Lumley* 210–217. 226; *Chambers* 6977–6979. 7031, 7032. 7060, 7061——It is lost on removal to another parish, *Lumley* 233, 234——Witness is decidedly in favour of the irremovability of paupers back to Ireland; exceptions to be made to this proposition, *Power* 580–586. 613, 614——All persons who come to England in search of employment should be irremovable, *ib.* 581. 585, 586——Difficulty in deciding claims to non-removability, *Rickards* 6316. 6375.

Reference to correspondence between the Board of Guardians of the North Dublin Union and the Poor-law Commissioners, showing the irremovability of Irish poor who have resided continually for the five preceding years in the same parish in England, *App. p.* 632.

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Isle of Man. Tabular statement of the number of paupers removed from Liverpool to the Isle of Man, in each of the years 1846–53, with the cost thereof, *A. Campbell* 5026; *Evans* 5401–5403.

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James's, St., Parish (Westminster). Duties of witness and of the junior messenger of the parish, with regard to the removal of Irish paupers, *Dore* 7383–7398. 7460–7462——Cases of removal are all brought before the Marlborough-street Police Court, *ib.* 7399–7401——Number of Irish removals from the parish in each year since 1848; discrepancy between this statement and a Return made to the House of Commons, *ib.* 7402–7411. 7476, 7477——Number of Irish paupers admitted into the workhouse of late years, *ib.* 7412–7415——Number of Irish and of Scotch poor removed from St. James's, in each year since 1845; expense of these removals to the parish, *ib.* 7427, 7428.

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Jameson, Richard Longfield. (Analysis of his Evidence.)—Guardian for eight years of the Cork Union, 1106, 1107——Confirms the statements of Mr. O'Shaughnessy, 1108–1111——The cases adduced by him form but a very small portion of the numerous instances of harsh removal, 1112——Explanation as to the occasional practice of the Cork guardians to assist, out of their private means, those paupers to return to England, whose removal thence has appeared unusually harsh, 1112–1120. 1126. 1137–1144. 1196–1208. 1214–1216——Uselessness of the appeal remedy in cases of illegal removal, 1118. 1135, 1136——The allegations of the paupers form the only means of testing the merits of their cases, 1112, 1113. 1119, 1120. 1134. 1196——Witness does not recollect that any pauper thus re-transmitted has been again removed, 1121.

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——Extensive diminution of mendicancy in Cork and throughout Ireland, of late years, 1180–1185——Improbability of the destitute classes being able to pay the passage money from Cork to England, 1186–1188——Former competition between the steam-boat companies adverted to as having caused extremely low fares, 1189–1194——There need be no fear for the future of any large influx of Irish paupers into England, 1195.

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Jersey. Reference to cases of removal from Jersey, involving separation of members of families, *O'Shaughnessy* 2161.

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Johnstone, Elizabeth. Abstract of correspondence from the Lowthertown Union, relative to the removal of Elizabeth Johnstone from Paisley, in 1850, *App. p.* 652.

Jones, Mary. Witness delivers in a document duly declared before a magistrate, relative to the case of Mary Jones, now in the workhouse at Clonakilty, *Maguire* 6194.

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Jordan, William. Case of William Jordan, who applied for relief after being twenty years in Stockport, and was sent to Dublin, *Cusack* 1879–1881——Removal of Jordan after having sixteen children born in Stockport, *Crawford* 2019–2022.

Joyce, Bridget. Extracts from proceedings, correspondence, &c. of the North Dublin Union, relative to the removal of Bridget Joyce and four children from Liverpool, in 1852, *App. p.* 637, 638.

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Kantark Workhouse. Particulars as to the diet in this workhouse, *Carr* 5539, 5540.

Keefe Family. Case of Elizabeth Keefe, her husband, and four children, removed to Cork by the West London Union; she had lived for the last seven years in Holborn; her husband deserted her in Cork, in search of employment, *O'Shaughnessy* 1045–1048.

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Kelly, Mary. Case of Mary Kelly, with four children, who is continually remaining in some London parish for three or four months, and as soon as an Irish order is made she goes to another, *Tubbs* 7170–7174.

Kelly, Michael. Abstract of correspondence from the guardians of the Ballinasloe Union, relative to the removal of Michael Kelly from Lambeth, in 1849, *App. p.* 614.

Kelly, Winifred. Case of Winifred Kelly, a widow, with six children, who sold all her furniture to come over from Ireland, but, after being a short time in England, was sent back from Liverpool, *Evans* 5339.

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Kincaird, Thomas. Resolutions of the guardians of the Strabane Union, and correspondence, &c. relative to the removal of Thomas Kincaird from Glasgow to Ireland, in 1851, *App. p.* 655, 656.

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Kirkwood, James. Letter in favour of the removal law, from Mr. James Kirkwood, inspector of the poor of Govan, one of the parishes of Glasgow, *Sir J. M'Neill* 3049, 3050.

Knox, Colonel. Reference to Colonel Knox, as one of three guardians of the Ballinrobe Union, who aided in sending a boy, named James Gormally, to Liverpool, *Carr* 5550. 5558. 5564–5572——Admission by Colonel Knox that, as a private individual, he has frequently assisted the labouring poor to remove to Belfast, Dublin, England, &c. &c., *Hamilton* 7385.

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Lanarkshire. Total removals from Lanark to Ireland, in 1853, *Sir J. M'Neill* 3020.

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1. *Resumé of the several Acts hitherto Passed:*

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Leonard, Julia. Case of Julia Leonard, a widow, who came to Liverpool with three children; she walked from Cork to Dublin, because the fare across was lower at the latter place; after being over seven months she was sent back from Liverpool, *Evans* 5333–5338.

Leonard's, St., Shoreditch. Removal to Cork by the authorities of this parish of a woman who had acquired a settlement in Bishopsgate, but who lost it intentionally in the expectation of being removed to her children; hardship of this case, *Rankley* 7843–7877——The parish of St. Leonard's is almost non-removing, *ib.* 7884.

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Lewis, Catherine. Removal of this pauper from Christchurch workhouse, London, to Dublin, after being in England forty-two years, *Crawford* 2012–2015.

Limerick. Case of a woman who, although the nearest place of her birth was Dublin, was sent to Limerick because the passage-money was cheaper, *Lord Donoughmore*, 2335–2338——About forty persons have been removed from London to Limerick within the last year, *Barrington* 2387——About twenty of these forty cases of removal have become chargeable to the union, *ib.* 2497–2501.

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Particulars as to the contract entered into between the owner of the vessel and the passenger, 1734–1736——Friendly feeling which exists between the different Irish unions, 1737–1741——Number of cases of alleged separation between members of families which have come before witness, 1742——Great hardship of several cases of removal, although they may have been legal, 1745–1750——Strong feeling in Ireland against the system of removal, 1751–1755——No amendment of the law will suffice; it ought to be repealed, 1756, 1757.

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Lindsay, Mr. Witness concurs to some extent in the evidence of Mr. Lindsay, *Cusack* 1787, 1788. 1841, 1842.

Linihan, Thomas. Extract from minutes of the guardians of the South Dublin Union, and correspondence, &c., relative to the removal of Thomas Linihan from Sheffield, *App. p.* 643, 644.

Litigation. Anticipated litigation between Ireland and England, but not between Irish unions, if a law of settlement be enacted in Ireland, *Power* 811, 812. 851–856——Great cost of the law proceedings necessary in Scotland, in order to recover expenses; causes thereof; case in point, *Gordon* 3698–3714.

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1. *Immigration of Irish Poor.*
2. *Cost of Relief to the Parish.*
3. *Practice as to Removal; Numbers removed.*
4. *Workhouse Accommodation.*
5. *Objections to Irremovability.*
6. *Other Evidence generally.*
7. *Papers laid before the Committee.*

1. *Immigration of Irish Poor:*

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5. *Objections to Irremovability:*

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7. *Papers laid before the Committee:*

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Liverpool Gaol. Table showing the number of prisoners who slept in the Liverpool borough gaol on Wednesday night, the 27th April 1854, *App. p.* 595.

Local Police Acts. Power in Belfast under a local Act of taking up paupers and confining them for twenty-four hours, &c., *M'Gee* 2898——Stringent powers as regards vagrancy, &c., under some police Acts, &c., in certain towns in Scotland, *Smythe* 3379, 3380. 3461–3466——Explanation as to the committal to prison in Edinburgh of a father and mother under the Local Police Act at Edinburgh, in consequence of a daughter having been found begging, *Gordon* 3636–3653——Police Act cited, giving the power of committal, *ib.* 3639.

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London. Number of paupers sent over to Cork from London as compared with those sent from other ports, *Duross* 1225, 1226. 1235–1240——Some of the London parishes are almost non-removing, *Rankley* 7882——Circumstance of many Irish who come over to join their friends being disappointed in meeting them, in consequence of which they become chargeable, and are removed, *ib.* 7898, 7899——Reduction of late in the total number of arrivals, *ib.* 7900. 7902, 7903——Larger proportion of women and children than of men who have lately come from Ireland; the men generally first arrive by themselves, *ib.* 7900–7904.

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O'Neill, Susan. Abstract of correspondence relative to the removal of this pauper from Edinburgh to Londonderry in 1848, *App. p.* 649, 650.

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2. *Liverpool.*
3. *London.*
4. *Manchester.*
5. *Scotland.*

1. *Authority and general Practice in regard to the granting of Orders:*

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1. *England and Scotland:*

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Walsh, Catherine. Abstract of correspondence, &c., from the Kilmallock Union, relative to the removal of Catherine Walsh and two children to Ireland from St. Luke's, London, in 1851, *App. p.* 646.

Warrants of Removal. See *Orders or Warrants of Removal.*

Warwick Union. See *M'Intie, Michael.*

Waterford. There were forty persons landed at Waterford, under orders of removal, principally from Wales, in the year ending last Lady-day, *Devereux* 2569-2573. 2577-2581——There were seventeen English people relieved during the same period, *ib.* 2586-2597——Probability that the lowness of passage from Bristol, &c. to Cork and Waterford, as compared to Dublin and other ports, would lead to the influx of paupers there; cases in point, *ib.* 2598 *et seq.*——Strong feeling entertained in the Waterford Union against the law of removal, *ib.* 2625-2631.

During the year ended 25 March last, forty removed paupers became chargeable to the union, *App. p.* 559, 560——On 28 April, two removed paupers were in receipt of relief, *ib.*

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Watt, Eliza. Case of Eliza Watt, who had resided for twenty-eight years in Jersey, but was forcibly sent thence to Cork, though she had no connexion whatever with Ireland, *O'Shaughnessy* 1018, 1019. 1034-1036.

Welch, Barney. Abstract of correspondence in 1853 from the Abbeyleix Union (Ireland) relative to the removal of Barney Welch from Halifax Union, *App. p.* 613.

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The union removes all paupers who are not irremovable, *Cleaver* 5916, 5917——The union sometimes administers relief by way of loan, but not to the Irish, *ib.* 5918-5921. 5936-5939——Reference to the cost of removals and also to the rates, *ib.* 5940-5945.

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Statement of the number and cost of removals of Irish and Scotch poor during the three parochial years ended Lady-day 1854, *App. p.* 610.

See also *Cotter, John.* *Examinations and Depositions.* *Henderson, Mary.* *Hopkins, Charles.*

West London Union. Number and names of the parishes in this union, *Chambers* 6928, 6929——The practice of the Board of Guardians is to relieve the industrious and remove the idle, *ib.* 6936–6943——Course adopted by the union when removals are decided on, *ib.* 6944–6950——Number of Irish paupers removed by the union during the last six years, *ib.* 6962–6968. 7009——The guardians have never pressed the removal of the poor at all harshly, *ib.* 7033–7040.

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Wexford. Reference to several cases of removal from England to Wexford without magistrates' orders, *Flood* 2200. 2202——Course pursued by the Board of Guardians as to the question of destitution and chargeability of any pauper, *ib.* 2215. 2218, 2219——People going from Wexford to England are mainly emigrants for America, *ib.* 2223–2225——Opinion that there never was a valid order of removal to Wexford, *ib.* 2241——Able-bodied paupers are never returned to Wexford from England, *ib.* 2242–2244.

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Whelan, John. Reference to the correspondence concerning the removal of John Whelan and five children from Manchester in 1850, and to their admission into the Enniscorthy Union, *App. p.* 646, 647.

White, Robert. Case of Robert White, removed from London to Belfast, in 1854, whilst labouring under lead-palsy, *M'Gee* 2816–2821.

Whitechapel Parish. See *Collingham, Hannah.* *Frost, Mr.* *Gleeson, Margaret.* *Haggerty, Margaret.* *Hanwright, Mary Anne.* *Holland, Ann.* *Horgan, Catherine.* *M'Carthy, John.* *Mahony, Mary.* *Swiney, Catherine.*

Widows. No widow can be removed from a parish until twelve months after the death of her husband; hardship of this in very many cases; suggestion that removal should be optional, *Evans* 5381–5387——Case of a woman whose husband died at Liverpool seven days after he arrived there from Ireland; she and her children wished to get back to their friends in Ireland but could not be sent, *ib.* 5383.

Wiltshire. Effect of the power of removal upon the rate of wages, *Pashley* 6450, 6451.

Wirral Union. Number of English, Scotch, and Irish paupers and foreigners upon the Wirral Union rates for the year ending March 1854, together with cost of each and number altogether in the district, *M'Nerney* 6003–6022. 6142–6149——The Wirral Union comprises five townships, Birkenhead, Tanmere, Liscard, Poulton-cum-Seacombe, and Wallasey, *ib.* 6008–6010——Number of paupers who were offered the workhouse, were ordered to be removed to Ireland, and were relieved outside, in Wirral Union, during the last twelve months, *ib.* 6037–6049. 6139–6141. 6151, 6152. 6167–6169. 6174–6176.

Witness hands in a table (*App. p.* 611) compiled by himself, for the year ending March 1854, showing how many of the Irish on the Wirral Union rates have gained a settlement, how many are removable from every cause, how many have a five years' residence, and how many have not; observations on this table, *M'Nerney* 6074 *et seq.* 6110–6119——The union is divided into two districts, the agricultural and the commercial, *ib.* 6130–6135——The out-door relief given to the Irish is for the most part temporary, *ib.* 6187.

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WORKHOUSES:

1. *Accommodation generally.*
2. *More liberal Treatment in England and Scotland than in Ireland; Effect thereof.*
3. *Applicability of the Workhouse Test as a check upon Irish Pauperism considered.*

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2. *More liberal Treatment in England and Scotland than in Ireland; Effect thereof:*

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3. *Applicability of the Workhouse Test as a check upon Irish Pauperism considered:*

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